No. 65,784

SATURDAY JANUARY 11 1997



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MONDAY THE TIMES FOR ONLY

# Minister starts storm with 'beggars are Scottish' outburst



CHIEF POLITICAL

DAVID MACLEAN, the Home Office Minister, last night caused a storm when he declared that most beggars were Scots and that they were on the streets through choice.

Mr Maclean, the rightwing Scots oorn MP for Penrith and the Border, said there was no justification for begging and those who did were "a disgrace" and "an embarnt". His remarks were immediately condemned by the

described his remarks as an insult to fellow Scots" which showed that the Government had a "care nothing, do nothing attitude".

FLUS INSIDE: 1015 FOR YOUNG TIMES READERS. THE

Charities said his comments were "unjustifiable" and claimed that many youngsters were forced to beg because of benefit cuts.

In an interview with the News & Star, Carlisle, this week. Mr Maclean said he had always given beggars something — a piece of his mind. "Most of them are Scomish and I've never met one yet who politely and gently asked

He added: "There are no genuine beggars. Those who are in need have got all the social benefits they require. Every time we go and check, we find they wan't go in hostels. Beggars are doing so out of choice because they find it more

Mr Maclean defended his comments last night but accused Labour deliberately misinterpreting them. "As any sensible person would appreciate I meant no insult to the Scottish people. I am a Scot myself and proud of it."

His remarks follow the outcry

was accused by the Prime Minister of hypocrisy after he backed tough "zero tolerance" policies agains peny criminals and said he would not give money to beggars. Mr Blair said he wanted the homeless to be taken off the streets but only if there was proper alternative provision.

Last night government and Tory party sources railied to Mr Maclean's defence. Terry Dicks. MP for Hayes and Harlington, was outspoken: "I am not certain they are all Soms, but I think those who are begging should be hosed down and that the disgrace of cardboard

we should be looking after are those who have been abused at home. But most of the others. I have to say, are just scum."

Henry Meleish, a Labour frontbencher, said Mr Maclean's comments spoke volumes about the Tory Government. This Govern-ment has a care nothing, do nothing attitude and in times of failure seeks only scapegoats, not solutions."

Sir David Steel, Liberal Democrat MP joined in the backlash. "If he thinks that Scots are living on the streets of London in this weather out of choice, then he's more foolish

that many youngsters under 18 were forced to beg on the streets because the Government had cut their benefit. She added that evidence did not suggest more beggars came from Scotland than the North or the Home Counties. Crisis, an organisation to help the homeless, said: Begging is not a chosen way of life

... it is a bleak, miserable existence." A spokesman for Centre-point, the homeless charity, said that seven out of ten young people it saw come from the London area.

Letters, page 23

# £200 rabies test under plan for pet passports

By VALERIE ELLIGIT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

PETS could seen accompany heir owners on holiday abroad under government proposais to relax the world's ughest quarantine rules and place: them, with a £200 same day" rabies check.

The new control would apply only to animals travel-ling from "isolated, rables-free With Arrow countries, and they would have to be fitted with a

microchip proving that they had been vaccinated.

The passport-for-pets" scheme is based on the Sweding microchip and comes after strenge pressure from groups, including diplomats and Service families, who claim that quarantine is too draconian.

The fast-track system is

ine nast-track system is a likely to apply to animals.
Travelling from the European Union, Cyprus, Malta and possibly Australia and New Zealand. But the change is unlikely to affect those coming from America and Canada and certainly not to South America, Africa or Asia, That means there will be no comfort for Chris Patten, the returning Governor of Hong Kong who has championed the passport scheme, or for his Highland. terriers, Whisky and Soda.

Senior ministers, recognis-ing that the issue could be a vote-winner at the general election, have set out to devise a "good, right, practical sys-tem". Douglas Hogg, Agricul-ture Minister, has told Cabinet colleagues that he is determined to maintain the level of protection to the public painst rabies, but he is con-vinced that scientific advances

now allow checks to be made on animals within a day. Under the proposals to be outlined in a Green Paper within a month, a number on the microchip would have to match the official documents issued by a vet. This would verify that the animal had been vaccinated and that a blood test had proven the

ot travel toti Britain with their owners but would be handed over to an authorised carrier at the foreign port or airport. On arrival in Britain, the carrier would be responsible for delivering the animal to one of a number of checking centres, which are likely to be set up at existing

registered quarantine kennels. At the checking centres, the pets would be assessed by vets and their documents scrutinised for a proposed fee of £200. If the paperwork was in order and the pet deemed fit and healthy, it would be allowed home with his owner. Vets would, however, have the right to detain any animal or papers about which they had doubts - and all animals travelling from countries harbouring rabies would still face

six months in quarantine. Travellers attempting to smuggle animals into the country would still face tough penalties, but ministers beheve that people will be dis-couraged from smuggling as they would no longer have to pay £1,500 quarantine fees. A Whitehall source said: The new regime would be very tightly monitored and the

checks would be tough. It is not going to be a free and open system, it will be as tough as the present arrangements. But it would provide for most people travelling abroad on holiday as well as those going

on longer stays."

Lady Fretwell, chairman for Passport for Pets, said: "If this proposal is right, then it would be fantastic news and I would vet checking the animals would be totally independent of the kennels used as check-

Paul DeVile, chief veterinary officer for the National Canine Defence League and a strong opponent of any relaxation, said: "I have reservations about whether we could cope with the huge numbers of animals that would come into the country. We would need to know the safeguards from third-party countries via EU

Guy Tamplin, of the Quarantine Kennel Owners' Association, was deeply sceptical. "If we are looking at rabies-free countries, the only places are Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Hawaii, Portugal and and if we are saying pets can travel through France, that is not rabies-free "

Labour is also committed to reviewing the quarantine rules and Eliot Morley, the party's animal welfare spokes man, said yesterday that he believed a system based on vaccination, bloodtesting and microchip identification could be leasible.



Canvas characters come to life at the National Gallery on Wednesday when look-alikes model costumes made by Wimbledon School of Art students. Charlie Copson chose Hannah Sida, above, to be Moroni's La Dama in Rosso

#### Population shift World population growth is

slowing for the first time, excluding the Black Death and the flu epidemic at the end of the Great War, a geograpers' conference heard Page 10

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# Dying prisoner kept chained to bed

BY RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Prison Service launched an inquiry last night into why a man was chained to his bed by his leg and arms until three hours before he died in a cancer hospice.

Geoffrey Thomas, 25, a remand prisoner, was kept shackled for three days in spite of pleas from his family and medical staff. The two officers guarding him had no discretion to let him go and he was released only after an emergency bail order was granted. By then he was unconscious.

our MP joined penal reform groups in condemning the prison authorities for their "callous" behaviour.

Marina Davies, his mother, said: "I begged the guards to dance seemed unnecessarily

take his chains off but they would not listen. We asked to be left alone with him but they would not do that either. By the time they finally took off the chains and left us with him, he was unconscious."
Mr Thomas, of Caerphilly,

Mid Glamorgan, had been remanded to Cardiff jail in October accused of burglary. He had previous convictions and was in custody because he had a history of not answering to bail. He became ill on December 23 and was admitted to hospital. There, he was diagnosed as being in the final stages of stomach cancer and he was transferred to the Last night Mr Thomas's Marie Curie Centre at Penarth family, doctors and local Lab- on New Year's Day. He died on January 3.

Professor flora Finlay, the hospice's medical director. said: "Having a chain on and two prison officers in attencouldn't have run away anywhere. He needed help to sit up in bed. His mother was signing the papers to take him over on bail, and within 15 minutes of that he died."

Tony Pearson, the service's director of security, admitted that it was very unlikely that it would be necessary to chain a prisoner in a hospice. He said: "We have to measure humanitarian needs against the need to hold people in secure custody. Whether we got the balance right in this case or not is something we shall have to work out from the inquiry I have set up."

The inquiry will be conducted by Jim Mulian, governor of Long Lartin jail, assisted by a doctor. Mr Pearson said that if the service had acted inappropriately, the family would receive an apology.



The inquiry comes after the controversy last year about women being kept in chains while in labour. The rules in such circumstances have since been relaxed, but discretion to remove chains from other patients lies with the prison governor: a prison officer cannot authorise their removal.

#### Halifax float handout will average £1,290

THE 8.5 million members of the Halifax Building Society will receive free shares worth an average of £1,290 when the society abandons its traditional mutual status and becomes a bank in June. Its stock market value could be as high as £12 billion.

Those who are both savers and borrowers will get a maximum windfall of £6.215. The average payment to each member is 23 per cent more than originally predicted. The Halifax's market debut

will be the largest extension of share ownership, increasing the number of private shareholders in Britain by some 30 per cent to 12 million.

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#### Archbishop tells Church to stress **British successes**

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of York has wrote an article in The Church praised Britain's achievements and urged the country to focus on its successes.

In remarks that could be seen to be supporting the Government, Dr David Hope said: "I am not saying we have never had it so good. I would not want to say that. But the overriding pessimism has to be tempered and balanced by a recognition of some positive factors about where Britain is and some of this country's

In his first important interview since translation from London in October 1995, Dr. Hope urged Church leaders to consider carefully what they say in the run-up to an Church had the right to speak out on politics provided it avoided party political matters

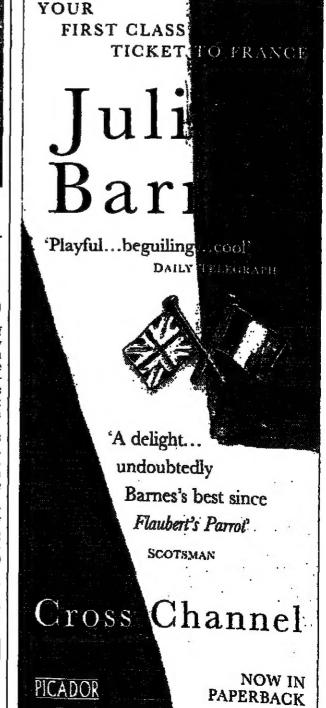
"The Church must be involved in political affairs," he said. "But bishops must not get themselves too involved in party political programmes." He made his remarks be-fore the Bishop of Edinburgh

Times urging voters to support Labour. The Right Rev Richard Holloway, who is primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, said the general election offered the Labour Party a chance to transform the "unjust reality of life in Britain".

Dr Hope said Church lead-ers should urge worshippers to consider moral and spiritual issues at the ballot box, echoing the recent document from the Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales. The Common Good. But he said: "We have to counter this sense that we are on a path of national decline There is much work to do, whoever wins the election, but it is not all bad news."

Dr Hope was speaking out against a background of public concern that the the Church of England leadership has become irretrievably left-wing after a series of Anglican bishops have sung the pra-Continued on page 2, col 5

Leading article, page 23



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# Major hints at May 1 election

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR, IN DHAKA

JOHN MAJOR yesterday gave the clearest indications yet that he is aiming to call a general election on May I. In Bangalore. India. as he continued his six-day tour. Mr Major sharply rebuffed sug-gestions that he had given up hope of carrying on until May.

At an impromptu press conference after flying in from Calcutta he appeared sur-prised when asked whether the decision to call the Wirral South by-election, which will result in him going into mi-nority government if he loses, meant that May was being abandoned as an election

ly not." he said with surprising emphasis. May I has been his preferred date for more than a year and nothing that has happened in recent weeks has shifted his view that it offers the best chance of pulling off another surprise victory. He could still be thwarted by a Commons de-feat on a confidence motion. which would force him into an

earlier noll Mr Major received an unusual endorsement as he left India when Deve Gowda, the Indian Prime Minister, said he hoped he would win the general election. The two have been getting on well but Mr Gowda's endorsement

The Referendum Party launches a £1 million poster campaign today, in which it accuses Brussels of imposing more than 100 rules on Britain every week. The campaign by Sir James Goldsmith's party, headlined "Brussels Spouts", will use more than 4,500 sites, including all the billboards around the Labour headquarters in Walworth Road, south London, and a large poster site outside the railway station in Huntingdon, John Major's constituency. The party is also running newspaper advertisements claiming that it has "chilling proof" that the public was lied to about the loss of sovereignity involved in joining the John Campbell, page 22

convention under which prime ministers do not get involved in party politics in other countries.

Brian Mawhinney, Conservative chairman announced on Thursday that the byelection will be called early next month - in spite of the imminence of the general election - and will take place late in February or early in March. The move does not rule out March 20 as a possible date. It may point to April 10, the

other contender, or May 1, in order to allow time for reactions to defeat to calm. But, as Labour leaders have swiftly noted, it also leaves open the way for Mr Major to call the by-election to prevent Labour forcing it in a Commons vote - only then to announce the general election for March and eliminate the need for the

by-election. Mr Major, and sources close to him, yesterday seemed to be steering away from that option by playing down the likelihood of a March election. He told journalists that the Wirral South decision was prompted by a desire to honour parliamentary conven-tions that by-elections after an MP's death should be held

within three months. The seat where there is a Tory majority of over 8,000, became vacant after the death of Barry Porter

Mr Major and other minis ters believe that the by-election can help the Tory cause by effectively prolonging the length of the election campaign. A local campaign fol-lowed by a national campaign would allow a lengthy period for the scrutiny of rival poli-cies which he believes to be the

Tonies' best card. Neither Mr Major nor his Cabinet colleagues are predicting a Wirral victory bush has already been decided that a substantial campaign will be mounted.

Major in India, page 15

# Archbishop paints a picture of hope from bleak landscape

THE Archbishop of York's optimism results from his experience of visiting commu-nities throughout his diocese and province. They have convinced him that the picture of life in Britain was not as bleak as it was sometimes painted.

But his intervention in the debate on Church and politics is not without calculated significance. The Church's voice recently has been a litany of Britain's woes, some focused directly, some obliquely, at failures of the Government.

Dr David Hope is dearly trying not only to redress the balance but also to show there is a voice within the Church that is not afraid to stand up for traditional, conservative values. Coming at the beginning of an election year. his words will encourage ordi-nary clerics to follow his example in their daily and weekly round of visits, services and preaching.

Many are disillusioned

with the apparent domination of the House of Bishops by the politically correct, liberal left wing and feel the picture of apparent decline under a Tory Government which the established Church seems so quick to condemn, is not necessarily complete. "The danger is that the Church of



Dr David Hope is anxious to show that a voice within the Church is not afraid to speak out for traditional values,

England very often can be judged by the agenda of the General Synod, when often that is not the agenda being pursued in the parish," the Yorkshire-born cleric said. For example, there are many criticisms of the bealth service, some of them are legitimate. Yet the development of medical technology of surgery has been significant indeed."

That in turn had created problems about how much was spent. "People begin to expect more and more, and at some point there have to be crucial and painful questions asked because there are limits to the kind of money that is available. But every country is facing the same questions

On the other side of the coin, he criticised the "insidious" problem of welfare dependance. "It is extraodinary. how much is being spent on the welfare state. There is evidence from across the world that welfare destroys as much as it protects. The

**Ruth Gledhill reports** political consensus in Britain seems to be quite advanced in

that sense, that there is a

problem and we are going to tackle it and not add to it." He went on: "I discern a restlessness and a spiritual searching for the deep down things of the human being. We, the Church, ought to be addressing this. We ought to be speaking more of the things of God to the people of the land. At the parochial level I see many clergy and laity faithfully pursuing and responding to the Church's witness and mission.

That is what we need to keep clear before us. Coming . from the Tractarian tradition, I am very conscious that everything needs to be seen in the wider perspective of eternity, of how the things of God engage with our lives today." Bishops who engage in politics should remember the

Church's fundamental mission: The Church is there for the celebration of the sacra-



Dr David Hope at home yesterday: "We need to celebrate our successes

ments, prayer and the reading mate the downside. The of the scriptures. It is important that we go on rehearsing and setting out what the basic understanding and tradition and teaching is in these

He cited reports from early this century, where language used about the disintegration of the family was far more apocalyptic than it is even today, and said the Church had a strong tradition of teachings on areas such as abortion and cuthanasia.

Jamie Bulger murder, Dun-blane and the murder of Philip Lawrence, have certainly raised questions about the nature of our society, and deeper questions for me about our human nature given us by God, and the potential that there is in each of us both for good and evil.

We need to keep the balance. But if we get into a wholy negative way of thinking, then everything is viewed from that particular perspective. We always need to be

seeing the things of this world in the light of eternity." "The general impression is

that in 1997, whatever the results of an election, there are good prospects for Britain." Dr Hope continued. "There does seem to be somehow a loss of national self-confidence. We need to celebrate our successes. I believe there are considerable resources and strengths in the country which we need to talk up."

> Credo, page 10 Leading article, page 23

#### Archbishop hails positive Britain "Bishop Holloway is old enough to remember the last Labour government" Continued from page I ises of the Labour Party and accused the "If you look at Britain in the context of Europe or the wider world community. people outside these shores are rather Tories of failing to put morality at the heart of government policy. "We can be more envious of us than we realise. For our own worst enemies, both as a nation example, the anti-Europeans are allowed a much stronger and more obvious voice here than elsewhere in Europe." and a Church," he said. "We must speak up for Britain and the way people have

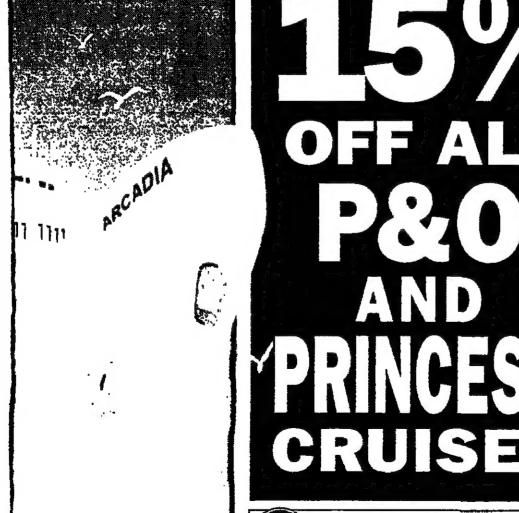
responded to new challenges."

Britain was the envy of the world in some important areas, and this was not acknowledged often enough by bishops.

The Bishop of Edinburgh was criticised by Sir Michael Hirst, chairman of the Scottish Tory party. Sir Michael, who is also a Church of Scotland Elder, said:

which brought much chaos and misery to the most disadvantaged in this society." The Scottish Tory Reform Group also called on the Archbishop of Canterbury publicly to disown the "irresponsible and foolish comments" made by Mr Holloway.

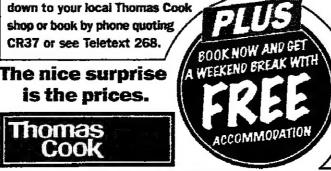
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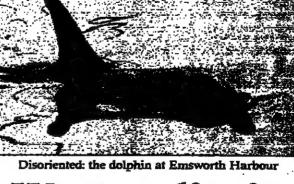
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#### Woman dies in bid to rescue dog on frozen river

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

A WOMAN died yesterday after falling into an icy river while trying to rescue her dog. The animal survived.

She spent almost two hours in the Thames at Reading before being rescued and taken to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, where doctors struggled in vain to keep her alive. Police had been alerted by someone who saw her in difficulties from a house near the river.

The victim was walking her dog along the river when it ran onto the frozen surface. She is understood to have followed it onto a patch of thin ice that collapsed beneath her. After the alarm was raised, police divers and two helicopters were called in to search for her Three other people have

died over Christmas while trying to rescue dogs on frozen water. On Boxing Day, Tony Rees, from Merthyr Tydfyl, died after trying to save a spaniel drowning in an Icy lake. Three days later William and Jill Willis. from Averly. Essex, fell into a lake in a country park after running over ice to try to free their

trapped dog.

Last night time was running out slor an ailing and confused dolphin trapped in cold water in a yacht marina. The dolphin arrived in the Tarquin Boaryard in Emsworth Harbour. Hampshire, at 9,30am yesterday and spent most of the day swimming aimlessly in circles.

Attempts to get alongside the bewildered creature in a flat-bottomed boat and coax it out to sea had to be abandoned as darkness fell. Ray Kemp. an environment agency spokesman, said: "The dolphin may have come inshore after being disoriented by winter storms and now seems

unable to find its way out." A couple in Lowestoft, Suffolk, said they had saved two ailing ornamental fish by giving them the kiss of life. John Day, a car park inspector, said: "I opened their mouths with my thumb and forefinger and gently blew air in."

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# election Advisers seek to divorce Prince from scandals such a lousy press? Mr starkey, the historian, told the same programme that earlier the same programme that earlier to have nerstanded fits master to have necessarily nec



The Prince feels that the

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Wales were fired yesterday after a five-year media obsession with his private life. Leading figures in his charities gave radio and television interviews to emphasise his good works. -

In the year in which the Prince's Trust, the largest charity of its kind in Britain with a £30 million annual turnover, celebrates its twenty-first anniversary, the Prince's advisers hope that media attention will shift from his divorce and the continuing shadowy presence of Camilla Parker Bowles to his more positive achievements. But there is little sign

Prince of Wales's halo. But Alan Hamilton sees little sign of an effective strategy to rescue him from public unpopularity

more acceptable king-in-wait-

Tom Shebbeare, director of

yesterday that the Prince's divorce had been a watershed

underline his "enormous"

public achivements. "I won-

der if there is a single other

public figure who through his

charities has created 60,000

jobs in ten years, and yet gets

ing have been denied.

from his doldrums of unpopularity, underlined by a vote during Tuesday night's ITV debate on the monarchy.

News of a meeting on Wednesday between senior officials at St James's Palace and the directors of his main charities, at which the Prince was not present, was allowed to leak out yesterday. Reports that the meeting was of a new committee of advisers dedicated to making the Prince a

new relationship with the media, but that would be difficult as he fel! "wounded and savaged" by them.

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Julia Cleverdon, chief executive of Business In The Community, another of the Prince's charities, said that with the divorce out of the the Prince's Trust, told BBC way and a new team of Radio 4's The World At One advisers at St James's Palace. there was an opportunity to turn a fresh page. But the Prince was not

suddenly going to adopt easier or more fashionable causes than his concerns of inner city regeneration, youth unemployment, architecture and organic farming. David

has sold itself "brilliantly" on family values but that pitch had fallen to pieces. "To sell it now as a do-gooding monarchy will not grab the

headlines." Palace officials dismissed reports of a five-year plan to improve the Prince's image. They are nevertheless aware of the looming date of 2002, when attention will be focused on the Ouren's golden jubilee and the Prince's fitness to succeed her.

The feeling of a new broom at St James's Palace has been created by the departure shortly before Christmas of

make a public admission of adultery with Mrs Parker Bowles. The commander has been succeeded by his deputy. Stephen Lamport, on secondment from the Foreign Office. and Mark Bolland, recruited from his post as secretary of the Press Complaints Com-

There are no signs of a significant change in the Prince's programme. On Monday he will be in Edinburgh promoting the idea of study support centres, a highly successful Prince's Trust scheme to provide schoolchildren from noisy or crowded homes with quiet

mission.

In the spring he will spearhead a trade mission to Gulf states and will make an official visit to Bangladesh as a prelude to the Queen's tour of the Indian subcontinent to celebrate the fiftieth anniver-

sary of independence. In June he will travel to Hong Kong to witness the handover of the colony to China, but Palace officials stressed yesterday that the Prince was not taking over state visits from the Queen, as some reports have suggested. The Queen does not make a habit of being present when the remaining fragments of the Empire are given away.

Letters, page 23

# Opera house says it 'cannot afford' schools matinées

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

PATE Royal Opera House says providing the children with 2 may be forced to scrap its study packs about the production. We see a higher level of mances for schools because it attention and understanding Prinary be forced to scrap its

cannot afford them. The admission comes after matinees for the 1995-96 season were saved by the elev-enth-hour intervention of arts patrons — despite the com-pany having received a E/8 million grant from the National Lottery partly aimed

The gesture by David and Janice Blackborn saved Covent Garden from a storm of accusations as critics said that the poor were once again subsidising the rich. But yesterday history seemed to be

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The company, which insists it is urgently seeking a spons-or, needs £90,000 to ensure that children can attend six schools matinees - three bailets and three operas. The house is also £63 million short of its £214 million redevelopment appeal, for which

fundraising continues.
Darryl Jaffray, a former Royal Ballet dancer and head of the house's ballet education, expressed dismay over the possible loss of the matinees, which are seen by children who would not otherwise be able to attend.

from the young people than from adult audiences. At the and boo the baddies. It's

amazing.

The waiting list for the subsidised tickets is double-oversubstribed, she said.
One pranary school pupil, Lynsey Bryant, wrote to her: "I liked talking to the dancers. 1 have never been to Covent Garden before, so it was nice fun to go. I would really like to go again with my family. But it cost too much."

Ms Jaffray said that the ottery grant was "for bricks and not for us", adding: "We run a huge education pro-gramme all over the country every day of the week. The company is awaiting

news this month of its Arts Council core funding, but Keith Cooper, director of corporate affairs, said that the matinées were in addition to the performance schedule for which funding was given. The grant we receive from the Arts Council only amounts to 37 per cent of our overall running costs, So anything we do beyond funding our education is sponsorship-

Covent Garden's work with children felt that its image as a stuffy, elitist place was unjustified. If more people were aware of their education work, he said, they would see the opera house in a different

The support given by the Blackburns had preserved education programmes, which included lectures at Central St Martin's and Glasgow School of Art. and activities at the Whitechapel Art Gailery; next year, they are sponsoring education programmes at the Tate Gallery.

Their help also ensured that the house was filled to capacity yesterday morning as children aged seven upwards at-tended a production of Sleeping Beauty.

Every child approached by The Times expressed excitement at coming. Some dressed for the occasion: their best party-dress was under their

The audience included a group from the special unit of the Great Ormond Street

Emma, 9, said: "I like ballet because I like the way-their toes point." Jasbir, an Il-yearold boy from Southall, west London, said: "It's wicked. The music's so good and the Mr Blackburn said that background looks nice. I saw



Children from Warrender school in Ruislip, west London, watching Sleeping Beauty. One 11-year-old said: "It's wicked. The music's so good"

part of it on Blue Peter and

One of the teachers, Chris Shasha from Oakfarm Infants School in Hillingdon, west London, said that the school matinées were "absolutely vital". "What an opportunity for the children. Such a great ballet and such a major hall. The majority would never be able to come otherwise."

Richard Morrison, page 21

## Life in the South drove engineer to take his life

AN ENGINEER who moved years become increasingly uncope with the cultural differ-ences and the cost of fiving. Alan Morris, 46, a Civil

Aviation Authority engineer and father of two, felt altenated when he was relocated from Manchester to Gatwick Airport, an inquest was told yesterday. He despaired of house prices that were double those in the North and hated being a stranger in the Survey commuter belt where he and his family rented a house.

He was found hanged in the garage last month, 16 months after the move. He left a note grying that he loved his family and accusing the CAA of helping to push him over the

edge.
His wife, Janet, wept as she

from northern England to stable. Before moving Alan take a job in the South killed was a very happy man. We himself because he could not lived in Chester but he didn't mind travelling to Manchester to work. It was a job he loved. But when he was told to move down south, everything changed. We tried to find a house but the prices were so much more down here."

Alan was paying university fees of £4,500 a year for one of our daughters. I got myself a job at Sainsbury's, but even so Alan was taking most of the financial burden himself and the strain began to tell."

Her husband was also

struggling to cope at work, where he was using unfamil-iar equipment. He sought psychiatric help but things got "worse and worse".

Dr. Michael Rowlands, Mr Morris's psychiatrist, said: "When the family moved they told the inquest how she "When the family moved they watched her husband of 22 soon discovered that houses in

the North costing £90,000 cost up to £180,000 in Surrey. He felt uncomfortable in the South, leeling he didn't quite belong and that there were differences in culture. He also told me that he had the threat of a 25 per cent pay cut through the possible privatisa-

tion of the organisation he worked for. Yesterday the CAA said that it was shocked and saddened by Mr Morris's death and was doing everything possible to support his family through a difficult time.

Neighbours said that they knew little about the family. One man living just a few doors away said: "I was very shocked to hear what had happened but we didn't know them and had no idea they had any problems."

Lors Lodge, the assistant Surrey coroner, recorded a verdict of suicide.

#### Pay victory served up to dinner ladies

DINNER ladies are likely to share £4 million in an out-ofcourt settlement of an equal pay dispute, it was announced vesterday.

The 1,500 women, members of the GMB general union and Unison public services union. hundreds to several thou-

sands of pounds if they sanc-tion the deal next week. The unions lodged equal pay claims at industrial tribunals on behalf of the women 18 months ago, when they worked for what was then Cleveland County Council. They claimed their pay was up to 40 per cent lower than other workers, including gardeners and refuse collectors who had bonus payments consolidated

into their wages. Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of Unison, said: This sets the principle that women manual workers are entitled to the same treatment as men on bonuses."



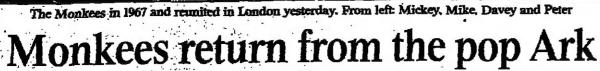
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is ready when it rattles in the shovel.

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY





By DAMIAN WHITWORTH

IT WOULD be easy to dismiss them as daydream believers but 30 years after they split up, the squeaky clean 1960s pop idols The Monkees are back. Yester-day they met in London to announce a British tour and a new album.

Peter, Mickey, Mike and Davey were manufactured by Californian marketing men as the American answer to The Beatles and produced four consecutive It's a case of enjoying what we do. It's

number-one albums and three numberone singles. I'm A Believer, Daydream Believer and Last Train to Clarksville. Their success came on the back of their own television series, which recorded their fictional ups and downs. Their real-life fortunes in the intervening decades have been mixed. Davey Jones, 52, the Manchester-born guitarist and only British member of the group, said: "It's not dollars and cents that matter.

important for alimony and kids' schools, but it's not the main motivation."

There was an attempted reunion of the group in the late 1980s but Michael-Nesmith, who had originally split the band when he bought himself out, declined to join. After recording the new album. Justus, he agreed to play live. Peter Tork, the tall, mop-topped one, said: "We'll be much better than before. We were all right to start with, now we're ferociously good."

#### Crime and punishment

6 The broad proposition that "prison works" is not in question.

Of course prison can work, if it is used with sufficient ruthlessness Deterrence fails only



being caught and imprisoned are not high enough, or because the sentence is not harsh enough ...

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Academics find method behind the 'random and impulsive' choices of players

# Design of form dictates favourite lottery numbers

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

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ONE of the great mysteries of by Camelot to a specially modern life has been resolved constructed mathematical after a four-month investigation by a pair of academics: how people choose their lot-

Until now, the widely held

notion has persisted that birthdays, anniversaries. street numbers, ages or superstitions are uppermost in people's minds as they select their six numbers and dream of untold riches. Not so, according to Stephen Salter of Shef-field Hallam University and Professor Neville Topham of Salford University, who have produced a paper on the lottery for the Centre for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaining.

The dominant influence is associated with the design of the lottery form, which is rational, since one would not expect players to devote much time to choose combinations on a 1 in 14 million random outcome," the paper says. By feeding in data supplied

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model, they measured the inclination of people to choose. or ignore, numbers one to 49. The most popular numbers — among which are 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19 and several twentysomethings - are clustered near the centre of the lottery ticket. Those with least appeal - including 1, 40, 41 and 45-49

- are towards the edges and

The resulting pattern suggests a fairly random and impulsive approach to lottery playing, as might be anticipated given the high value of time in a harried leisure society and the extremely low probability of choosing correctly the jack-pot numbers. The notion that birthdays and hence low numbers is an important determinant is inconsistent with the low propensity value for num-

The two academics proved that "snatial component" -the layout of the entry form - was the main influence on players. The findings help to explain the freak result when 123 people shared the jackpot one week: all the winning numbers were in the central columns and away from the ticket's extremities.

"We are very confident about the spatial effect and are prepared to argue it all day," Professor Topham said yesterday. "People are rational and know it is nonsense to try to predict the outcome."

The good news for Camelot is that even if the six most popular numbers happened to be drawn in one week, "this worst-case scenario does not exhaust the prize fund." The research also disclosed

that people almost invariably used the same set of numbers if they had a side bet on the lottery with bookmakers. Betting shop punters can have a wager on the outcome of the Irish Lottery and recently the big bookmakers introduced a game called 49ers, in which they offer fixed odds ranging from 11-2 for guessing one number correctly, up to 99,999-1 for guessing all six.

The academics say that the tendency for punters to use the same numbers means that the two forms of gambling are complementary. They recommend that side betting should come under lottery laws and believe that more funds would be raised for good causes. However, because the odds are in the bookmakers' favour, with "almost zero" chance of making a loss, the academics argue that some of their profits should go to good causes, with a share for horseracing, whose revenue has been hit by the lottery.

Unfortunately, the learned 30-page treatise casts no light on how to win the lottery. Professor Topham, who has continue playing the same numbers, statistically I should win the jackpot

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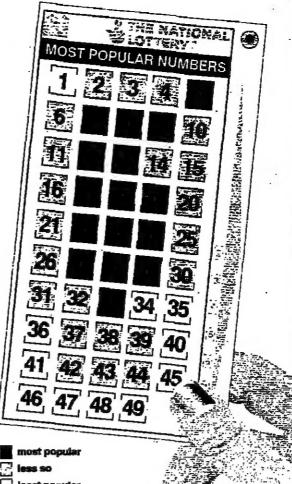
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#### **Butcher** is charged over food poisoning

THE butcher at the centre of the food poisoning outbreak in Scotland that has killed 16 pensioners appeared in court yesterday to face a charge of culpable and reckless conduct.

supplied cooked meat carrying the E. coli virus from his shop in Wishaw. Mr Barr was committed for further examination and released on bail by Hamilton Sheriff Court. A Scottish Office statement

predict the date of a trial but without delay.
The Lord Advocate has also

instructed the Procurator Fiscal to continue to prepare for a fatal accident inquiry into the deaths in the E. coli 0157 outbreak. The Scottish Office said the inquiry would not take place until the end of any criminal proceedings to avoid

from North Lanarkshire council are both investigating the sioners who have died had attended a church party in Wishaw on November 17.

Barr: alleged to have

John Barr is alleged to have

More than 400 people have been reported as showing symptoms of the food poisoning bacterium. Several people are still in hospital across central Scotland. John M. Barr & Son was last year voted

said it was not possible to public interest demanded that investigations be concluded

any risk of prejudice. Stratholyde Police and envi-ronmental health officials

Scotland's best butcher.

#### woman died and more than 70 people were injured in the collision on August 8. Drug war allies Britain and Spain are to drug-trafficking. Tom Sackville, a Junior Home Office Minister, said after meeting his counterpart in Madrid. He said the countries had a common interest in thwart-

ing on British smugglers on ( Libyan ruling

Train driver

is charged

over fatal .

collision

The driver of a train which collided with an empty pas-senger service near Watford

Junction station was yester-

day charged with manslaugh-

ter and endangering

passengers. Peter Afford, 56, of Bushey,

Hertfordshire, employed by

North London Railways, has

been bailed to appear at

Watford Magistrates' Court

on April 4. He intends to

deny the charges. One

A Crown Court judge has backed a decision by magistrates to deport a Libyan shoplifter arrested 154 times since 1995. Hussein Jazwi, 41, alias Ashley Jones, of South Shields, South Tyneside, claims he will face a firing squad in his bonneland because he defected.

#### Parents' jail visit

The parents of Lucy Me-Lauchlan, who is being held in a Saudi jail on a murder charge, are due to see her tomorrow. Stan and Ann Me-Lanchlan will travel with members of the family of Deborah Parry, who is also accused of murdering an Australian murse.

#### Branson rivals

A Swiss-Belgian team will make its attempt to be the first to fly round the world in days after Richard Branson's failure. The Breitling Orbiter team of Bertrand Piccard and Wim Verstracten plan to take off today or tomorrow from the Swiss Alps.

#### Droppings fine

A fast-food company was fined £55,000 at Dublin District Court for preparing bot-dogs on a bread board covered in mouse droppings. Concessions Ireland, owned by the former Irish soccer international Mick Lawlor, sells food to spectators at Croke Park Stadium.

#### Curzon pays up

High Court action against Peter Curzon, heir to Viscount Scarsdale, has been formally dismissed. Mr Curzon, in custody after failing to pay £575,000 to his former wife, Karen, and daughter, Danielle, 13, was freed on Tuesday after he agreed to pay a lesser amount.

#### Top-price seat

The longest station bench in the world is to be restored, at a cost of £8,000, as part of improvements to Scarborbench, which features ornate cast-iron armrests, was built in the early 1900s. is 456 ft lone and can accommodate 228 people.

#### Jamesons off air

Derek Jameson and his wife Ellen are to leave their late night BBC Radio 2 show. The Jamesons, at the end of March. Mr Jameson, 67, a former Fleet Street editor. said travelling from their tome in Brighton to the studios in Glasgow had be-come "a bit much" for them.

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His boat and a finger are gone, but Tony Bullimore may never want for chocolate again

# Wave of publicity could improve sailor's cashflow

By ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY, DANIEL MCGRORY AND ADRIAN LEE

IT WAS fast dawning on Tony Bullimore yesterday that get-ting shipwrecked was the most fortuitous mistake the elf-confessed wheeler-dealer

Although more seriously injured than first thought — he may lose a finger through frostbite — the 56-year-old lone yachtsman will find himself a valuable commodity by the time he steps onto dry land on Monday. In a global free-for-all, film companies and chocolate manufacturers are promising to make him a

Max Markson, an agent who is Australia's answer to Max Clifford, is among the sse of businessmen waiting for HMAS Adelaide to dock. He confidently predicted yesterday that Mr Bullimore's heroic failure could easily be worth more than £1.5 million. Emma Wass, Mr Bulli-

more's official spokeswoman,

Items key to Tony Bullimore's survival - chocolate

ed water and hammock — are the subject of frenzied bidding and likely to launch a flotilla of adverts

Butcher is

charged

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whose sports management he was rescued was a cup of company signed him up be-fore he set off, said: "We are loathe to go for it big time on the commercial front. The last thing we want to do is upset rescued him, by doing chocolate har advertisements "

Later in the day, the com-pany swallowed its reservations and contacted every major manufacturer, tantalising them with the prospect that it might have been their brand of chocolate that sustained Mr Bullimore during his four days and nights in the

Also interested were manufacturers of bottled water and companies wanting him to endorse clothing, hammocks and luxury yachts. A tea company yesterday placed an advertisement in a tabloid newspaper on the strength of

Mr Mulvany said his uncle was "overwhelmed by the excitement at home and the offers, but he is more proud of receiving a message from the Queen. He is truly British to the news that the first thing Mr Bullimore asked for when Mr Mulvany said that his

Stephen Mulvany,

Bullimore's nephew and busi-

ness partner, had no qualms about cashing in and accepted an offer from Richard

Branson, Britain's other hero-

ic failure of the week, to fly

with the rest of the Bullimore

"He has lost everything," Mr Mulvany said. "That boat

put him in debt. He popped

out of the yacht so quickly because he didn't want the

rescuers to cut it open and he

is distressed that it can't be

chance to make a few bob so I

told him to go for it." The

Exide Challenger was not

family to Australia.

main worry was trying to persuade his uncle to stay silent for fear of jeopardising publishing deals. He is so gabby and he is so high he can't shut up but I told him he bas to now."

This command came too late to prevent a jubilant Mr Bullimore posing for photographs with the crew who rescued him and the Chief Petty Officer, Peter Wicker, whom he wanted to kiss after he pulled him from the sea. He also revealed how he

was almost killed when he was tempted to leave the safety his boat after wrongly believing that rescue had arrived. "I was terrified because once I dived out I couldn't get

With barely 24 hours of oxygen left he had wondered if



Tony Bullimore gives Chief Petty Officer Peter Wicker a kiss after being rescued. His nephew has since tried to restrain such behaviour

he was preparing his grave: "I worked out all the possibilities to make the end last as long as

Clean-shaven and rested after the fried breakfast he had requested, Mr Bullimore said he could understand any anger over the cost of his rescue. There is something a little absurd about the tremendous cost of rescuing people who do foolhardy things. I've thought about it very deeply and very traumatically and I don't know whether we've got the right to lean on society, communities or countries to sav. 'Well, here we are, come

brother Dave, Wesley Noble, the yacht's designer, and Mr Mulvany are due to fly out today, although the champagne reunion they intend may have to be in a hospital ward. Captain Raydon Gates on the Adelaide said: "Our doctor thinks he will need surgery on the finger severed when he closed the hatch and he may lose his left index finger from frostbite."

Mr Bullimore's movements around the ship were restricted yesterday because of severe frostbite on his feet and the medication he is taking means he has not yet been able to have a celebratory drink. He has made several calls to his

family in Bristol where Mrs Bullimore - who has taken Mr Mulvany's advice and is charging for her many television interviews - said: "We just want to hug him." She wants to be there in time to celebrate his 57th birthday on

Thursday.

Mr Bullimore's family was poised to sign a deal with a daily newspaper and an Australian company was favourite

Phil Jones, deputy managing director of Exide Batteries which sponsored Mr Bullimore's yacht, said the company was still delighted to be associated with the sailor. The name on the upturned boat beamed round the world. "We have no regrets, other than the trauma that

But Mr Bullimore also faces unwelcome attention from creditors when he arrives home. He admits that sailing has taken its toll on his

Tony has gone through." Mr

One creditor, who is suing Mr Bullimore for £40,000 over involvement in the Bingley Hall exhibition centre near Birmingham, said last night: "He is not a hero in my

eyes and a good few others.

want that money back now he

Bradkeyne International Limited, a company run by Mr Bullimore, was dissolved in April 1986 with sizeable debts. It was founded in 1983 and set out a list of more than 50 possible sidelines, including wine and spirits, film and record production, caravan dealing, funeral directing, estare agency, private detection and bookmaking.

A second company, Bradkeyne International, with the same address and personnel. is still trading.

> Simon Jenkins, page 22 Letters, page 23

# ife Is this how life is going to be?

From our **Business Editor** 

TT'S a recurring go away. Every wee

You have just £61 f. everything. It's not eve £9 a day. You've giv up your car. New cloth Holidays. Your pet. You don't go out. The heating is mme down. But you still without paying you

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Finar From our Financia Correspondent

It's a recurring night It won't go away. Ev You have just £6 everything. It's not £9 a day. You've g up your car. New ck Holidays. Your per.

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# Life

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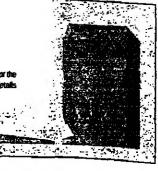


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household rep

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# Only Curve bring you all this



# Jeering mothers drive paedophile off council estate

A CONVICTED paedophile was moved to a secret address under police guard yesterday after demonstrators besieged the hostel where he was

staying.

Alan Christie, 50, with an anorak covering his head, was escorted by two CID officers from his DSS bed-and-breaklast accommodation on a rundown Stirling estate. A cordon of six police officers protected him from the crowd. As he was driven away, lying under a blanket on the back seat of the car, about 50 women chanted: "Beast out, beast

Mr Christie was moved after a 212 hour protest by mothers and grandmothers from the Raploch estate, five miles from Dunblane. They gathered shortly after 9am. first outside the council's local housing office and then outside the hostel, where they hammered on the door and shouted through the letterbox,



Christie leaving the DSS hostel yesterday

demanding that Christic left. They said that if the authorities did not "get him out today, we will". Police maintained a low profile and moved the crowd back only once. Mr Christie's presence at Raploch had been leaked to the press the previous night after it became known that Stirling District Council had issued a letter to 12 schools in December warning them to be extra

vigilant" as a paedophile had moved into the area. The man's identity had not been revealed but it later emerged that he was Mr Christie, jailed for a year last April after admitting lewd and libidinous conduct towards a four-year-old girl. He was released in October and lived in Callander before moving to

Stirling, his home town.

He had previously spent II years in a psychiatric hospital after a similar attack in 1965. At his sentencing last year, a forensic clinical psychiatrist-said there was a "significant risk" that Mr Christie would strike again as he suffered from "deviant sexual arousal".

Margaret Haney, 54, a mother of eight leading the protest, welcomed Mr Christie's rapid departure but criticised the council for using Raploch as a "dumping ground for weirdos". Linking the case to that of Thomas Hamilton, the Dunblane murderer, she said: "They all had suspicions about Hamilton



Margaret Haney, a mother of eight who led the protest, on the doorstep of the hostel where Mr Christie lived

but they didn't act on them. If we don't act, the council will wait until perhaps our children are raped and murdered and our schools shot up, and then they'll say 'Oh, we had a theory about him'. What's the use of that? The council foisted this man on us and did nothing to get him moved. We will be making sure this

doesn't happen again." Yesterday the council met a group of residents to explain why Mr Christie had been his release, Mr Christie started a year of treatment ordered by Stirling Sheriff housed at Raploch and to inform them that he had been Court. Last night the council moved at his own request. refused to say where he was

Gordon Jeyes, Stirling's di-rector of education, said: The Alan Miller, chairman of council has a policy of putting the welfare and salety of the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties, said that the counchildren first and we had no cil's letter to schools displayed an unbalanced approach and hesitation in writing to the headteachers making them had served only to provoke a aware of the situation." After lynch-mob mentality. "It was

bound to create fear and alarm and it is difficult to see how it assisted parents to do anything other than what they

The Raploch community has driven out sex offenders before. Last July, Geoff McAllister, 28, was forced out by a mob of women after they learnt from a magazine article that he had been convicted of a

#### **Offenders** may have to register with police

By RICHARD FORD

CONVICTED sex offenders will have to register their names and addresses with the police under a Bill published

The Sex Offenders Bill, which ministers hope will be enacted before the election. provides for the names and addresses to be placed on the police national computer. It covers offences including rape; intercourse with a girl under lo: incest by a man; indecent assault: and causing prostitution with a girl under 16. The duration of registra-tion will vary with the sentence given: five years for an adult given a non-custodial sentence and life registration for anyone given a jail term of at least 30 months.

Information held will be available only to the police, who will, however, have the discretion to inform schools when a paedophile moves into their area. Under the Police Bill, employers of those with unsupervised access to children will be able to get information about prospective employees.

#### Pilots to face breath tests before take-off

By RICHARD FORD

AIRLINE pilots face being breathalysed under government plans to meet new EU

Police officers would have the power to test pilots, air traffic controllers and maintenance crews for drink and drugs. The move comes after concern within the Transport Department that alcohol might be a factor in some

At present, police have no powers to breathalyse a pilot even though it is illegal to fly a plane under the influence of drink. The legal time for thing will be set as 00-milli-grams, of alcohol per 100 millimes of blood compared

with the limit of 80 for driving.

Carolyn Evans, technical lines Pilots' Association, said pilots did not object to tests but were concerned about how they were carried out. "I don't think passenger confidence would be too much enhanced by seeing their pilots blowing in a bag before take-off," she said on Radio 4's The World et One.

The Transport Department conducted by police based at airports but not in aircraft. 🕒 🖫

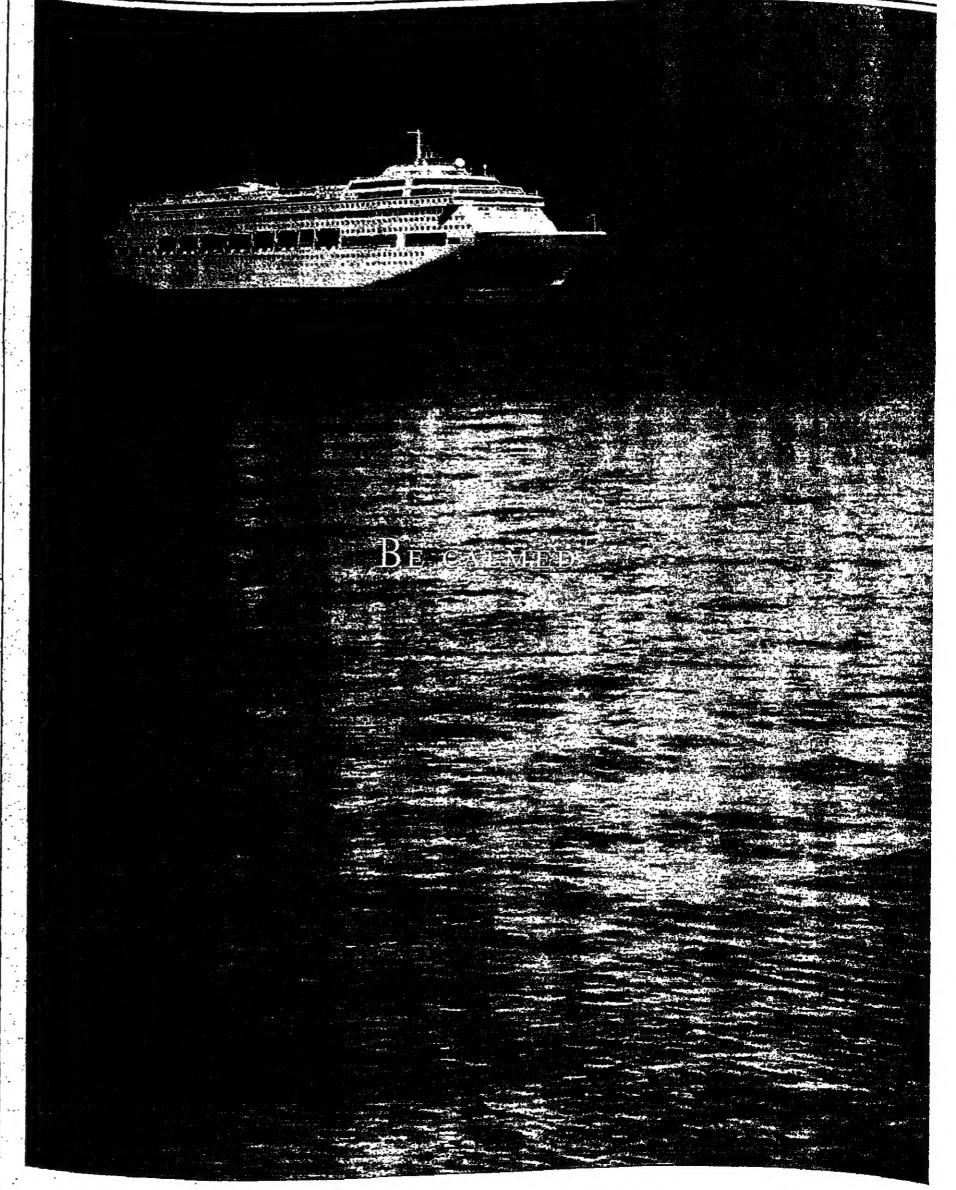
#### Irish law loses its seat at the

100 of the 276 venues used by the court for hearings are not

# hotel bar THE IRISH tradition of bearing court cases in botels, dance halls and schools is

threatened by planning laws. For generations, district court judges have travelled to remote botels and halls to hold court and resolve local differences. But on Wednesday Judge Thomas Fitzpat-rick struck out 250 summonses due to be heard at a hotel in Milford, Co Donegal; he was unsure if the court was valid because the hotel did not have planning permission to hear court cases.

It decision has put in doubt the validity of hundreds of district court sittings around, the country. About 100 of the 276 the transfer of the 276 the 276

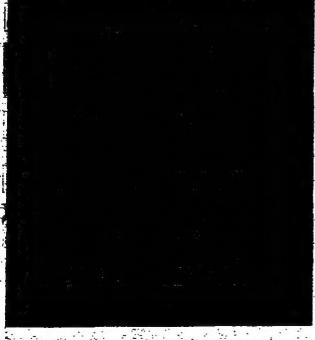


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Penny-pinching mentality prevented the swift rescue of stricken tanker, accident investigators say

# Sea Empress insurers are blamed for oil disaster

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE penny-pinching of insur-ers turned the grounding of the Sea Empress off the Pembrokeshire coast last year into an environmental disaster, it was claimed yesterday.

A draft report by government accident investigators is said to contain a catalogue of avoidable failures in the attempt to rescue the Liberianregistered tanker in February. They include outdated charts. poor relations between the Milford Haven Port Authority and local pilots and confusion over who was in charge.

The report, leaked to the BBC, claims that insurers refused to sanction more tugs



to pull the stricken tanker off the rocks near the oil terminals at Milford Haven in the first few days of the crisis. They believed that there was

enough pulling power. Yesterday Guy Lindley Ad-ams of the Marine Conservation Society, who has seen the leaked draft, said that avoiding the cost of more tugs had taken precedence over avoiding pollution. "It appears that the first priority when the Sea Empress ran aground was finance. We should never again allow the financial liabilities to cloud the judgment of those seeking to save a stricken and heavily laden tanker."

Mr Lindley Adams said that the effect of having too few tugs was that the pulling power of the rescue operation was about 200 tonnes whereas the striken tanker was pulling back at the equivalent of 800 tonnes. The tanker was just pulling the tugs around."

He urged the Government to introduce the French system for handling tanker disasters. There, a government-appoin-



The Sea Empress aground off the Pembrokeshire coast last February. The report claims that using more fugboats could have avoided the loss of almost 70,000 tonnes of oil

formidable powers, including the right to commandeer any tug, ship or navy vessel need-

ed to avert a disaster. The leaked draft document, by the Department of Transport's marine accident investigation branch, identifies failures that it says led to about 70,000 tonnes spilling onto the coastline, harming a wealth of wildlife. If the failures could have been averted, the Sea Empress might have been pulled off the rocks in two days, rather than the six

perhaps of only 2,000 tonnes of oil.

The Department of Transport and the Milford Haven Port Authority refused to comment on the document yester-day. It is understood to claim that rescue amd salvage teams had five different sets of charts on the tides and depths in the estuary. This led to confusion over whether or not the vessel could be pulled off the rocks with so much oil still on board.

According to one chart, the depth in the location where the tanker was holed was 18.3

metres. Another put it at 19 metres. In reality the depth was 21 metres and the tanker could have been pulled off sooner on the rising tide. Sources who have seen the leaked document said yesterday: "Instead of liaising with local pilots, who knew the charts were crap, decisions at the port were made on the basis of these out-of-date

charts. This was confirmed yester day by Captain lan Evans, a former marine safety adviser in the region, who said that the

captain of a local pilot ship had told the salvage team that the Sea Empress could be off the rocks on the second day. Captain Evans told BBC Breakfast News: "The pilot was there advising. His advice was ignored for reasons that are beyond my understanding."

Other failures said to be listed in the report include confusion over whether the Government, in the form of the Transport Secretary, had taken control over the operation in the early days. The

report also says: The standards of training and examination of pilots at Milford Haven are unsatisfactory and in need of improvement.

Rolf Dale of Uni Store

brand, one of the vessel's insurers in Oslo would not comment on the allegations but said: "It is always hoped that one learns something from any accident."

The official report is due out within the next two months. Last year an interim report described how the Sea Empress had failed to steer clear

of the rocks in Milford Haven harbour. Although not apportioning blame, the investigators said that the captain and the pilot had not discussed or agreed on a plan for the

vessel's approach.

Andrew Smith. transport spokesman, said: "It is alarming that the charts for the approaches to Britain's biggest oil port are reported to be inaccurate." He called on the Government to have the accuracy of charts for other ports and busy scalanes checked urgently.

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#### **Policeman** demanded sex from prostitutes

By PAUL WILKINSON

A POLICEMAN who had been a promising cricketer with hopes of playing for England was jailed yesterday sex. Addi Ditta, 22, who played for the England Under-19s, lured women into his car before producing his warrant card and demanding sex.

Asian cricketers to sign for Yorkshire, which he later left decently assaulting one woman and atterno assault three others. He joined the police in September 1995 after he broke his arm on a cricket itsur of South Africa.

James Goss, for the prosecu-



#### Man held over death of Briton in Antigua

BY JOANNA BALE

A DISCHARGED Antiguan policeman with a history of mental illness was expected to be charged last night with the murder of a retired Lancamer British colony.

Wilson Adams is accused of killing Gabrielle Stocker, 60, in an apparently motiveless attack on Wednesday on Runhead with a rock and a pole. and had her throat cut with a knife. Locals restrained her attacker until police arrived. 🧳 Mrs Stocker, from Cleve-leys, near Blackpool, had been working for Voluntary Service

Overseas, teaching chemistry

at Antigua State College since August 1995. She retired from

Fleetwood County School in Lancashire in 1994.

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needed by the country i forced onto the streets by poverty. Frail and ill, they are in London alone 74 people perished while sleeping rough.

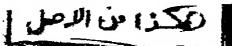
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# World population growth slumps for first time in decades

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

WORLD population growth is slowing for the first time, excluding the Black Death and the flu epidemic at the end of the Great War, Bill Gould, of Liverpool University told the Geographers' Conference.

The number of children born has been falling, a trend that now includes all African countries for the first time, he said. While fertility rates remain well above replacement level and the African population continues to grow at 2 to 3 per cent a year, the figures represent a revolutionary

The last estimate of world population — six years ago stood at 54 billion. Subsequent censuses, none done later than two years ago, showed little evidence of the slowdown. China, with 1.2 billion people, still tops the league. The reported fall would

appear to disprove the thesis that childbearing only declines after economic conditions improve, as happened in Europe. In Africa, conditions are not improving but fertility is falling - this is "a crisis-led" transition, he said. "When people feel the pinch, they choose to have smaller families, and now they have the means; Professor Gould said.

The change had been made possible by the greater availability of contraceptives; more family planning centres; bet-ter education of girls and women; and a growing recognition that children cost money. The biggest declines had been a result of government programmes, he said, citing Bangladesh, population 118.7 million, a very poor country where fertility has fallen from seven children per woman in 1970 to about four in

1993. That is a bit of a miracle" said Professor Gould, "the result of a vigorous government programme of education and provision of mother-andchild health programmes." Equally rapid falls have

been recorded in China, Indonesia (191.3 million), Brazil (159.1 million) and Mexico (84.4 million). East Asia has shown the steepest falls, with fertility now between two and three children per woman. In Africa, Kenya (26.4 mil-

lion) and Zimbabwe (11.5 mil-

lion) have had the most pro-

nounced results, thanks to pol-

itical commitment. However, fertility in Nigeria (93.3 million) has remained static at 6.4 If fertility continues to decline at these rates, world population will eventually stabilise without a Malthu-



The 1348 Black Death, depicted by R. Cabon Woodville in 1910, which affected world population figures

## Mobile phones go global via satellite link

BY NICK NUTTALL

MOBILE phone users should soon be able to make calls anywhere in the world with the launch today of the first of 66 satellites forming a new communications network.

On board the Delta rocket, which blasts off from California, will be three small spacecraft which will be part of

globe. When the full network is in place early next year, callers should be able to ring, page or fax home from a mountain-top in the Andes or a tramp

steamer on the Yangtze River. The system has been developed by Motorola, the international electronics firm, with backing from Lockheed Martin Corporation and the

to be worth billions of pounds. Potential users include businessmen, travellers, journalists, and relief agencies.

Iridium works by using a large number of small satellites in a comparatively low orbit of around 750km (470 miles). Conventional satellites which beam television pictures fly as high as 35,000km (22,000 miles) and reaching power and the number of satellites means that one should be overhead at any given time.

The call is transmitted to the nearest tridium satellite, which relays until a satellite is found above the call's final destination. Here the signal is beamed down to the cellular phone or traditional land-line. The phones are expected to cost around \$3,000 (£1,775) and calls

#### them requires power beyond existing mobile phones. Iridium requires less Khrunichev State Research Space Center in Moscow. The market is thought **HURRY! GREAT NEW OFFERS!**



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# Quiet faith defeats cynics and snipers

Richard Whitfield

Religious faith, per-sonal belief and in-tegrity are put to the test in the harsher detail of our evolving life stories. Human storylines are, and have always been the keys to opening up theology.

I define theology as the reflective study of the God of light and of beauty within and with us, but also of the

dark and evil in our nature, sometimes referred to as the anti-God or anti-Christ. We have recently been reminded yet again of the first phase of the Christ storyline, announced as good news with the birth of a Saviour. God with us in human form, a perfect love to cast out fear. Soon, Herod launched a futile cull of newborns in response. The anti-God is close by whenever the vul-nerable, including children and prophets who will not shut up, are assassinated.

Assassination takes many forms in our era - in terrorism, in ethnic torture and bloodshed, in random shootings by the deranged and unloved, as in Hungerford, Tasmania and Dunblane, in the murder of modern saints such as Martin Luther King, Archbishop Luwum and Philip Lawrence, and in the tragic self-assassinations of despairing suicide.

There is also character rious intent, sometimes sug-ared with thinly veiled public humour. Anyone even marginally in the public eye can be unfair game in that arena, especially if they stand for anythi remotely challenging ch high ground can bring in the excavators to investigate below ground, looking for traces of imperfection or

disloyalty.
The sim is to undermine. credibility and to silence or ridicule what might be a

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have become highlighted firough its advocate's own moral struggles as much as their endowed picty.

Those of us engaged in moral debate need to have the courage to sustain poise during such attacks, because of the need for moral resolution in addressing our world's avoidable pain. Enhanced scholarly and scientific inman condition are rarely ethically neutral. Knowledge of ourselves as psy cho-social beings has moral consequences, even though it is commonplace to ignore

Our God in Chicks knew about forms of in-life destructive ness. He experienced the trick questions, betrayal by mock trial and a crown of thorns. Yet He said little or nothing in His defence. His-being and minister chal-lenged the established order. He thus become the

fairly judged and distorted out of context? The testimony of the prophets, saints and mystics is that persecution, whether large or small, can be a growth point for spirituality, a deepening of faith, a consolidation of identity and a strengthen-

ing of integrity.
It seems that there is nothing more motivating than others' beastliness to prompt a new examination of one's own shadow. In that dark side, of which Jung wrote so profoundly. lurk fears of personal insolvency and the rage of the clamouring ego which dis-places the soul and its

The wronged ego wishes to complain, to fight back, to justify, even to litigate. The mainring soul waits upon God's reassurance through grace that all is well concerning the invisibles. The soul can be reassured by injunctions such as "To thine own (soul) self be true. There is no profit in gaining the whole world if you lose your own soul" and There, but for God's grace,

Malevolence and ill report are spiritually far more serious for the doer than the receiver. Patient receivers of ill intent discover that the God of the Covenant does not stay afar off when the ego is wounded. The Christ brings light to all things, having shared the wounds

So the ego's pain is displaced as grace and greater woul security, a gift we can all claim if we hold fast to that which is good.

Professor Richard Whit-field is Warden of St George's House Windsor

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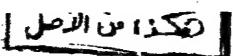
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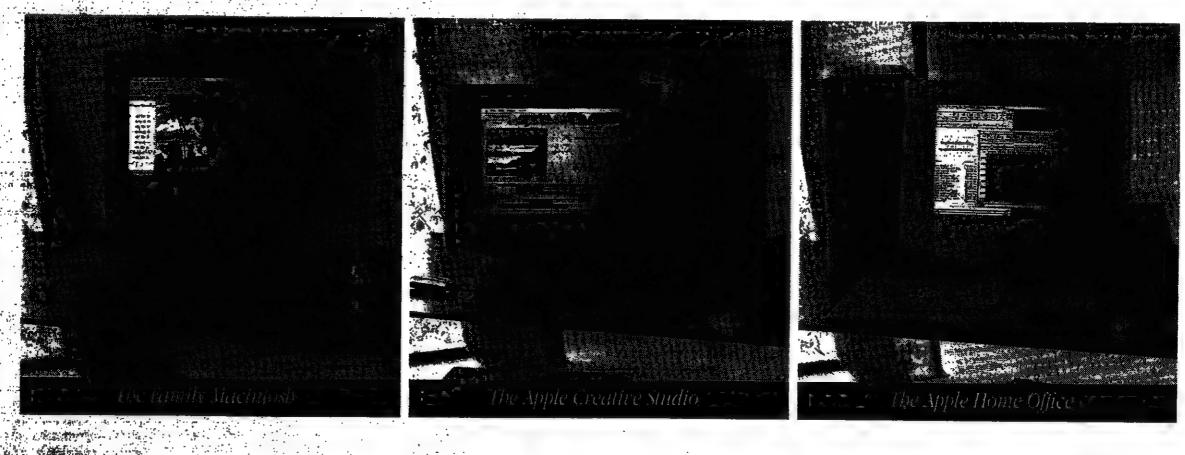


HE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY II 199

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**4**. Apple

# Ebbing Benidorm establishes a beachhead in Wales

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN INMADRID

THE shivering citizens of Cardiff and Belfast will soon receive a party of visitors from friendlier climes, bearing tales of pubs well stocked with barrels of lager, sizzling fish and chips and curry — all to be wolfed down under the scorching sun, on golden beaches, to the gentle music of the Mediterranean.

Starting on Tuesday, the "Benidorm Roadsbow" will trundle cheerfully for three days through Wales and Northern Ireland. Led by the town's mayor, Vicente Pérez Devesa, and consisting of a number of Benidorm's town councillors, the roadshow will aim to sell the charms of the much-maliened Costa Blanca resort to the as yet unconverted Welsh and Ulsterfalk

Tourists to Benidorm have so far tended to come from Manchester, Liverpool. Newcastle, Glasgow and London, and the council is keen to attract people from other areas. There was an II per cent fall in the number of British tourists to Spain in



The beach at Benidorm on the Costa Blanca. Although it is the summer destination for more than a million Britons, there were 3 per cent fewer British tourists last year

determined to arrest the decline with a "top-up" from Cardiff and Bellast

We want British visitors to keep coming to us." Señor the way of life we have. They feel totally at home with us and we appreciate their presence very much." Of the four million tourists pouring into Benidorm last

sun, sand and a good time. The place, once a somnolent fishing village of some 3,000 souls, now boasts a skyline which the Michelin Tourist

Mediterranean". Pubs, bars and chip shops vie with esplanades selling tourist tat, T-shirts and caricature packlas. Visitors used to Cannes may halk at the general tone of the resort but the the resort, but the

be in a state of cut-price bliss. At least half of the annual tourist influx is Spanish, clearly unfazed by the spectade of a mini Manche

"Look, let's be fair," says Montse Gaseo, the press

cised for being kortera Spanish slang for tacky or naff but not everyone can afford to go to the Côte d'Azure. You must not be elitist. Most people in Britain

and Spain are just normal folk and Benidorm is a normal place with very normal prices. It is a democratic holiday destination for a democratic age. 'Come to democratic Benidorm' will be our roadshow's message." Benidorm's Mayor will

press the flesh on the streets of Cardiff and Belfast, distributing information to those willing to take it. Señora Gasco says. We have many attractions in Benidorm, which the people of Wales and Northern Ireland should appreciate. Apart from our pubs and our beautiful beaches, we have Acqualand, the most important aquatic park in Europe, and Mundomar, a marine theme park. And since the countryside is flat and untaxing, our British visitors can go for long walks."

As if that were not induce ment enough, the Mayor will tell people in Cardiff about the Benidorm Sevens, an international rugby tournament to be held in May. There is also an international marathon next November, although he may need more than a mere roadshow to get any takers from among the horizontal Brits on holiday.



# Times readers give £60,000 to help charities

BY DANIEL MCGROKY

"I know we have been criti-

THE generosity of readers who responded to The Times Christmas appeals will make a huge difference to crucial work this year of the two charities concerned, the Evelina Children's Hospital and Tusk Force. Donations of nearly 560,000 have already

been counted and there is much mail still to open. The charmes were chosen because they work with help-less victims—sick children and threatened species—and they head every penny to survive and to thrive. Both are small, presision groups whose work can be measured and

received more than (25,000 to protect). Your donations of meerly £30,000 to the Evelins

ist treatment.

The Eveling Children's Hospital, which is the paediatric unit for Guy's Hospital. In London, is delighted with the denations, but its need for money remains acute to help more children like Caroline Morris, 15, who was treated there when her kidneys deterorated and a transplant failed. Caroline's grandparents pro-vided some £8,000 to buy a portable dialysis machine, known to the family as Dillan. with which she is able to stay with friends and go to parties.

Her mother, Penny Morris, lost no time in mounting her own campaign to raise money for more machines to be donated to the Evelina Appeal for families who cannot afford. to buy their own. The cost of transforming a young per-son's life is a formidable one, however, and the Evelina Appeal remains permanently

Tusk Force was yesterday deciding ways to spend the





money. Tammy Marler, the bead of fundraising, said: "We think it appropriate that we should help to fund projects to protect the endangered British native maximals like the red squirrel, the vole, dormouse and wildcat."

Money will also be spent on educational projects. Tusk Force's international projects and its anti-posching teams guarding the Siberian tiger, elephants and bears.

Cheques or postal orders for Tusk Force should be made payable to Tusk Force and sent to PO Box 290. Wetherby, Yorks LS23 7XL To make an instant credit card donation, or for information, phone 0345 414616.

Cheques or postal orders for The Evelina Appeal should be made payable to The Evelina Children's Hospital Appeal and sent to The Evelina Appeals Henriette Raphael Guy's Hospital, St Thomas Street, SEI 9RT. For credit card donation, phone 0171 403 4089.

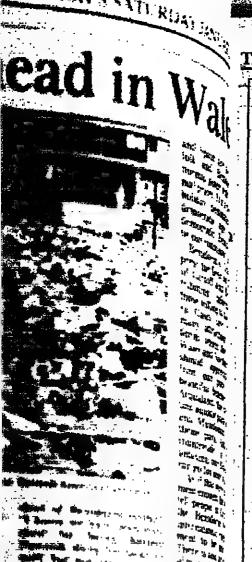




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# 'Sacking' scandal hits Hong Kong

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

A POLITICAL scandal rocked the hothouse world of Hong Kong politics yesterday when Lawrence Leung, the retired immigration director, said he had been dismissed - contradicting repeated government statements that he sought retirement for "personal

The credibility of the Hong Kong Government is now in doubt in what has become a controversial case that appeared central to the integrity of the Hong Kong-China

relationship.
In surprise evidence to the Legislative Council, where he appeared under a subpoena, Mr Leung admitted that within hours of the threat to dismiss him he had met Peking's second highest-ranking official in the colony.

Mr Leung gave evidence for four hours yesterday to a Legislative Council select committee formed to investigate allegations that he had given Peking confidential material on immigration and caused foreign governments to doubt the reliability of Hong Kong residence papers. W.K. Lam, who as Civil Service Secretary heads the civil service, conceded last night at a press conference that he had not told the council that he had considered compulsory retirement for Mr Leung, but he declined to say why. He refused repeatedly to confirm or deny that Chris Patten, the Governor, had been told that Mr Leung. a senior official, was facing disgrace.

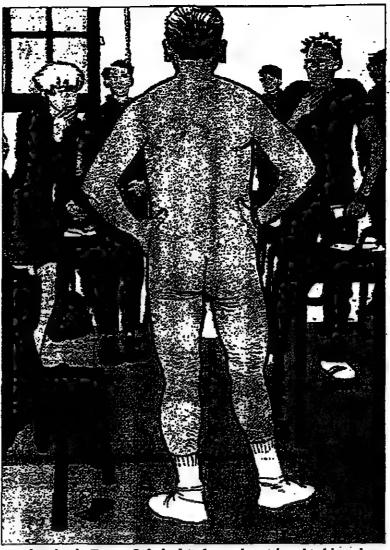
Mr Leung said that on July 5 he had been summoned to Mr Lam's office and told he must either retire by 5pm or face compulsory retirement after 31 years of service. Mr Leung said that when he asked why, Mr Lam told him: You know why ... The Government no longer trusts you."

Asked by council members why he had not demanded to see his superiors or lodged an appeal, Mr Leung said: "I knew that for a man of my seniority, dismissal would have to be approved at the highest level, including the Governor or even the UK." He then wrote his retirement letter. As he gave evidence yesterday, Cheung Man-kwong, a council member, entered the chamber and said he had just been told by a member of the public" that on the day of his retirement Mr Leung had been seen with Chen Zuo'er, China's envoy to the ambassadorial-level Joint Liaison Group conducting negotiations on Hong Kong's transition to Chinese rule. Mr Leung then agreed: "I

made the appointment with him after I decided to retire." He then changed his statement, saying the meeting was 'pre-arranged". Mr Leung said he had undergone a six-month investigation by the Indepen-

dent Commission against Cor-ruption, and had been

cleared. The conflict of evidence under oath is a vast embarrassment for the Government. Periury carries a prison sentence of up to seven years. Mr Patten has said that he had never known any reason why Mr Leung should leave



A drawing in France-Soir depicts the teacher stripped to his socks

# French pupils learn the bare essentials

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

BERNARD DEFRANCE, a French philosophy teacher, claimed he was expanding his students minds and laying bare the essence of democracy when he stripped naked in front of a

mixed high-school class. The authorities in the town of Meaux, east of Paris, thought differently, and last week he was temporarily stripped of his job, sparking an intellectual debate over the line be-

tween philosophy and exhibitionism.

The revealing class took place at Pierre de Coubertin High School. when the 51-year-old teacher told his teenage students he would remove one item of clothing, starting with his bow-tie, for every philosophical riddle he could not answer. M Defrance may have taught his pupils too well, for by the end of the class he was left standing in nothing but his socks.

The author of many philosophical works, he insisted that his unorthodox teaching methods were an illustration of the workings of democracy, "The point of democracy is to discover that the emperor has no clothes, and that authority is only exercised by the permission of the citizens, who make the laws together," he said.

"It is the mission of schools," he said, "to allow students to experience their liberty in real terms, and not just

in the imagination."

Some students applauded the technique. "There was nothing sexual

about it. He was showing that he was just like us," one said.

The parents of another pupil filed a complaint with the police School administrators, after pondering M Defrance's arguments for several weeks, voted to suspend him for four months pending an inquiry. There is a limit beyond which philosophical provocation becomes unacceptable." said Guy Coissard, academic inspec-

tor for the Seine et-Marne region. In a country that regards philosophy as central to education, the case has sparked debate. The conservative Le Figuro considered M Defrance's self-revelation "a strange way to teach", while the left-leaning Le Monde quoted Hegel and noted. "From Bernard Defrance's teaching. these adolescents may learn to discov-er who they are, to understand that obedience to the law is very different from submitting to someone."

Several of the teacher's colleagues have leapt to his defence. This is a brilliant man," declared Laurent Brisset of the French teacher's union. "It's important that there is someone to say these sorts of things."

M Defrance remains unrepentant. "I want to deconstruct the idea of pupils' submission before the teacher and the institution, to instil an idea of equality... that way I will make students interested in philosophy while also making them respect me."



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#### Hope rises in Angola as Princess arrives

BY MICHAEL BINYON

mine-clearing operations.

She will fiv to Luanda to back a Red Cross campaign against anti-personnel mines. After two decades of civil war, an estimated nine milition mines lie scattered around the country, about one for every man, woman and child. Angola has one of the world's

multiples marching through the city During her live day visit the centre after a rally protesting against the new law, which Princess will visit a Red Cross factory making artificial limbs, health centres and hospitals caring for the victims of

#### Korean striker sets fire

DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A FLURRY of diplomatic activity has raised hopes of a peace settlement in Angola ust as Diana: Princess of Wales, is about to visit the country to lend support to

highest injury rates from makes, with about 24 geople a day being admitted to hospital, and thousands of

She arrives on Monday, soon after the departure of Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, the Overseas Development Minister, who had talks with President dos Santos and Angolan Government leaders, as well as with officials from Unita, the rebel group that signed the 1994 Lusaka ceasefire agreement.

to himself Seoul: A car worker on strike set fire to himself yesterday to protest against South Korea's stringent new trade union law as thousands of workers clashed violently with police. The apparent suicide attempt by Chung Jae-sung, a painter at Hyundai Motors in

Ulsan, 185 miles southeast of Seoul, could provoke more protests. Mr Chung, 33, suffered burns to 30 per cent of his body, but his condition was said by doctors not to be serious. Witnesses said he doused himself with "something inflammable" and set it alight during a violent clash with riot police. The interinter was among about 20,000 workers from

several .... Hvundai factories they fear threatens their jobs. The legislation, passed on December 26, gives manage ments greater freedom to lay off employees, lengthen work ing hours and hire substitutes. Police fired teargas, leading to violent clashes, the Yonhap

and small rocks. About 20 workers and police were injured, the agency said. (AP)

Leading article, page 23

news agency said. Workers fought back, throwing stones

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# e bare essent

'Pale faces' outburst by reporters mars slum tour as Marxist city rolls out the red carpet

المُكَدُّا مِنْ الرُّصل

# Passage to India cheers Major in election year

JOHN MAJOR has been treated to prodigious and generally glowing coverage in the Indian press during his Indian tour, although one outraged journalist said yesterday. "A lingering probable with most Englishmen is that they still feel they have the right to rule us."

That was in response to the preferential treatment said to have been given to British' reporters — "pale face scribes" - accompanying the Prime Minister on his visit to a Calcutta slum. The Indians complained that they were kept at a distance while the Britons enjoyed unfettered

The reporter, writing in The Pioneer, said that "one of us natives" shouted at Mr Major,

Hope rises

in Angola

as Princess

arrives

asking why Indian correspon-dents had been kept out. The Prime Minister smiled benignly" and is said to have answered: "But I am talking to you now." The Times of India was similarly aggrieved, de-claring that Indian journalists were "herded behind a ram-shadde hamboo frage." The shackle bamboo fence". The Indian Express carried a leading article mocking the Marx-ist rulers of Calcutta for rolling out the red carpet for Mr Major because the Communists had been in the forefront of "the mindless destruction of all vestiges of

the colonial past. The chattering classes, it said, had sniggered at Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal, over his enthusiastic welcome. The paper carried a

#### Upwardly mobile phone partners

THE Prime Minister hailed in Britain and across the the success of BT yesterday after it won a £60 million. toehold in the swiftly growing Indian mobile phone market.

Sir Iain Vallance, Chairman of BT, who is among the businessmen travelling with Mr. Major on his tour of the sub-continent, flew to Delhi yesterday to complete the deal. Under it, BT will acquire a 22.5 per cent stake in Bharti Cellular by taking over a subsidiary of the French CGE Group, one of four partners in

Bharti has more than 65,000 subscribers, a rapidly expand-ing base, and Sir Iain said last night that India had become a key market for BT. It was the biggest deal announced so far and he used the news to

world and as a result there was a "long stream of future earnings". He said Britain was now the second largest overseas investor in the world. Mr Major had lengthy talks yesterday with H. D. Deve Gowda, the Indian Prime Minister, both in Calcutta and as they flew together to Bangalore. Mr Major again urged the Indian Government to buy British Hawk jets to replace their ageing military aircraft and raised the plight of the two Britons still held by mili-

tants in Kashmir. Mr Major was garlanded when he went to the headquarters of Standard Chartered, the bank for which he once worked, to inaugurate its credon Mr Major's six-day trip tit card centre. He was given a gold card with his photograph spread the privatisation mession of the spread and remarked that he age. Since it was privatised, in had not been told his credit BT had invested more heavily limit. front-page cartoon showing Mr Basu on his knees to Mr

In a leader headlined "Pas-India praised the Conservatives approach to India while lambasting Labour's. It accused the Labour Government at the time of partition in 1947 of creating the Kashmir prob-lem. Harold Wilson, the for-mer Prime Minister, had sided with Pakistan in the 1965

An article in The Hindustan Times suggested that India should be concerned about Mr Major's possible defeat in this year's general election. It praised the Conservatives' approach to Kashmir, comparing it favourably with what it called the Labour Party's en-couragement of lobbies that favoured a plebiscite to determine whether Kashmir should remain part of India.

A Calcutta resident wrote to the editor of *The Statesman* saying it was time to stop fighting the Battle of Plassey [the scene of Robert Clive's victory in Bengal in 1757]. "Not a day passes when we do not come across shrill anti-British rhetoric by our leaders, who find in the East India Company and the British Empire a useful scapegoat to cover up their own follies."

The Telegraph of Calcutts gave breathless coverage to Mr Major's visit beneath the headline: "Major strikes right chord, holds the city in thrall". A sub-heading added: "He came, he saw, he conquered."

It reported that Norma Major was a hit; many slumdwellers had been impressed by the "memsahib". A front-page article said: "There was cricket fever, film fever, football fever and now there is a Major fever." It noted that this was the first visit to Calcutta by a serving British Prime

Last night Mr Major flew into Dhaka for talks with the Bangladesh Prime Minister.



John Major and his wife Norma at the Victoria Memorial in Calcutta yesterday

#### Battle joined over 'loan' of Governor Hastings portrait

THE British and Indian authorities are at odds over the ownership of a valuable 18themerged here yesterday.

Diplomacy forbade the strange case of the missing portrait being mentioned in Prime Minister and Norma Major visited the Victoria Memorial Hall with its myriad relics of Britain's imperial history. But, behind the scenes, a battle is under way over Britain's refusal to hand back a 250-year-old picture by Lemuel Abbot of Warren Hastings, British India's first Governor-General.

Lord Curzon, a former viceroy, brought the painting to the memorial hall from the National Portrait Gallery in 1920. There it stayed for decades, but in 1987 the staterun hall lent it to Britain for two years to hang in the official residence of the High Commissioner in Delhi.

Now British officials are refusing to return it on the ground that it belongs to the United Kingdom. Mr Major was told of the dispute yester-day by Sir David Gore-Booth, the High Commissioner. Sir David was quoted in The Telegraph of Calcutta as say-True, there was an question that has now arisen s who owns the painting. Negotiations are on with the memorial authorities."

Those authorities, however, say that the negotiations are merely about the painting's return. Amid hints of court action by the hall authorities to get It back, the National Portrait Gallery has inter-

The dispute was kept well under wraps as Mr Major toured the hall yesterday.

looking at exhibits such as a statue of Queen Victoria and a large painting of the young Edward VII riding into Delhi

Yesterday Mr Major had some news about how Britain intends to mark the fiftieth pendence this year. There will be a visit of the Roval Shake speare Company to several Indian cities and an exhibition in Delhi and Bombay of unrivalled collections of the British Museum. But they are



Hastings: icon of 250

### TV saga heralds Deng demise

FROM JAMES PRINGLE

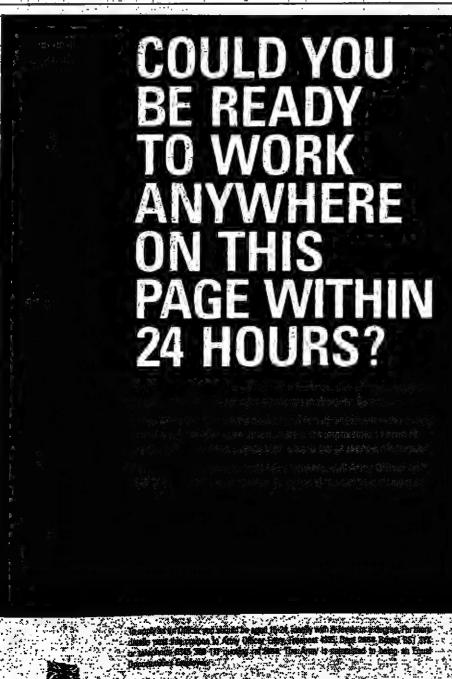
A TWELVE-PART television series on Deng Xlaoping, 92, Peking's senior leader, ends tomorrow, prompting some Chinese to believe that the eulogy is designed to prepare the 1.2 billion population for his impending demise. Mr Deng, the architect of

was reportedly taken seriously ill at the new year. The series, was screened from January 1.

"It may be a signal to us that Deng's days are drawing to a close, a woman teacher said. A lawyer in his thirties said: "Deng's image had been de-clining ... he is no longer a threat to those who will succeed him." A foreign analyst

China's economic reforms, said there may have been some political purpose in showing it now. The leadership needs a smooth transition.

The party under President Jiang Zemin, Mr Deng's heir apparent, will have to manage the post-Deng era, deal with Hong Kong, reverting to Chinese rule in July, and face a key October congress.



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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

#### THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997



JonBenet Ramsey: precocious performer with takent for pleasing on stage

# Girl's killing stuns Americans

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

هَكُذُا مِن الأصل

THE murder of a six-year-old beauty queen in Colorado has put the gaudy world of children's glamour pageants under scrutiny in America

JonBenet Ramsey, daughter of prosperous parents in Boulder, Colorado, was found dead in the cellar of her family home on December 26. She had been sexually assaulted, struck on the head, bound and gagged, and patholo-gists estimated that the crime was committed the previous evening -bours after an excited JonBenet had opened her Christmas presents.

JonBenet was a precocious little girl who regularly won prizes in local and national junior beauty comests. She was America's Little Royal Miss of 1996, and appeared to be a natural on stage where, at the urging of adults, she would wiggle her slim hips, wink her maturally luxuriant cyclashes and pout her painted lips.

Police are treading carefully, partly owing to the devastating nature of the case, but also because the killing has attracted reporters from around the world to peaceful Boulder. It was the mountain city's first killing of 1996, and law enforcers are ampious that no mistakes are made. Equally cautions, the dead girl's parents have hired individual lawyers for themselves and are granting limited assistance to investigators. Jon-Benet's father is John Bennett Ramsey, a prominent Boulder

businessman and former US Navy pilot. The girl's name was a purposeful derivation of his. Her mother, Patricia, is herself a former heauty queen who had worked hard to coach her young daughter in the ways of beauty contests.

Children's beauty pageants are a flourishing subculture in provincial America, with parents often spending thousands of dollars to push forward their offspring. Youngsters are clothed and painted to resemble grown-ups, and children as young as two are encouraged to adopt provocative poses. The constant aim is to conquer that most natural of young states:



Patsy Ramsey was Miss West Virginia in 1977

shyness. For the parents there is the pleasure, say some critics, of living their lives through their children.

The mystery of JonBenet's death deepened this week with disclosures that a truncated emergency call to the police was made from the Ramsey home a few days before Christmas. The call was interrupted before any words were spoken, but the family has claimed that it was made by a drunken reveller at the Ramseys' Christmas party.
Police also discovered in the

house a rough draft of an apparent hostage note.

The Ramseys' home is large and well-appointed, recently improved by \$700,000 (£410,000) of building work which was done by numerous contractors. Many of them will have met JonBenet and may have had access to the windowless cellar where she was to be found dead and where, only hours earlier, Mr and Mrs Ramsey had hidden the Christmas presents they had bought for JonBenet and her brother Burke, nine.

The Ramseys have offered a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the "killer on the loose" they claim is roaming Boulder, but city authorities deny that there is such a person at large. Mr Ramsey, well-spoken and a pillar of the community, has pronounced himself "nauseated bevond belief" at subtle intimations that he or his wife may somehow be linked to the death of JonBenet.



JonBenet posing with her brother Burke

# Ex-aide says he ran US for Clinton

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

ACCORDING to Dick Morris, he wrote President Clinton's State of the Union address, told him where to take his holidays and steered him in making the world a

The now-disgraced White House adviser, who resigned in August after it was revealed he allowed a prostitute to listen to his conversations with the President, has published a idiosyncratic portrait of the workings of the White House which puts the author at

Mr Morris is credited with helping Mr Clinton to rehabilitate himself after the first two, hazard-prone years of the presidency and the Republican landslide in the 1994 congressional elections. Although he had been exiled from the White House by the

tions, the campaign strategy bore clear signs of his touch. But critics dispute his influence was as pervasive as be

At the start of Behind the Oval Office: Winning the Presidency in the Nineties, to be published on Wednesday but widely trailed this week, Mr Morris apologises to his wife, who is seeking a divorce, and to others for his ego.
"Having won a struggle with
the White House to help the President get back on course, I felt omnipotent, he says. There is little sign in his account that this feeling has dimnished

He quotes Richard Holbrooke. America's forceful Bosnia negotiator, as telling him that without his help "I would never have been able to get it done". The Washington Post, which reviewed an early

copy, comments: "Morris takes credit for just about everything except tracking down the Unahomber".

Despite the inescapability of Mr Morris's ego in the text, he offers insights into the Clinton image machine. Among many



Morris admits that he

other small touches, he advised the President to take "regular-guy" holidays camping or hiking with his family. Mr Morris played a big part credit with journalists. in weaning Mr Clinton away from the Hollywood friends who had been such a feature of the early years of the presidency, but who were thought to add an unwholesome, untrust-

Middle America. Mr Morris is entertaining, if not newsworthy, on the President's tantrums. He describes Mr Clinton screaming that Bob Dole, the Republican presidential candidate. was an "evil, evil man". He derisively referred to his staff. whom he picked for their youth and freshness, as "the children who got me elected".

worthy element to the White

House image in the eyes of

To Mt Morris himself, the

alone, alone, alone if I have to", ordering aides not to leak his policies to earn themselves

Mr Morris has done his best to disobey that order, and has reportedly been paid a multimillion dollar advance by Random House for doing so. But the sniffy reaction of the Post, diligent supplier of the main market for Mr Morris's work, suggests he has failed to glean much credit. "There are no smoking guns here", the paper concludes.

#### Gingrich 'plot' caught on tape

By Bronwen Maddox

rich's punishment.

term. The House is due to vote

on January 21 on Mr Ging-

The tape was made in

Florida by people who over-

heard on a police scanner a

A SECRET tape recording of a conversation between Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Republican leaders, which emerged yesterday, suggested that he may have breached a promise to the committee investigating him

its findings. Disclosure of the tape adds fuel to speculation among Republicans and Democrats that Mr Gingrich, who was

narrowly re-elected this week,

may not see out his two-year

cellular telephone call between Mr Gingrich and other House leaders. It was passed for ethical misconduct not to to The New York Times, use his office to counterattack which described the tape's owners as "people unsympathetic to Mr Gingrich".

The Speaker's promise to the committee on December 21 was part of a pact to spare The committee is investigating whether Mr Gingrich misused tax-exempt charitable donations for political purposes. He has admitted giving misleading information to the House and failing to get proper legal advice about the use of tax-exempt

But on the same day as striking this agreement, according to the tape, Mr Gingrich held a telephone conference call in which he sketched out a damage-control statement for Republican leaders

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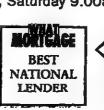
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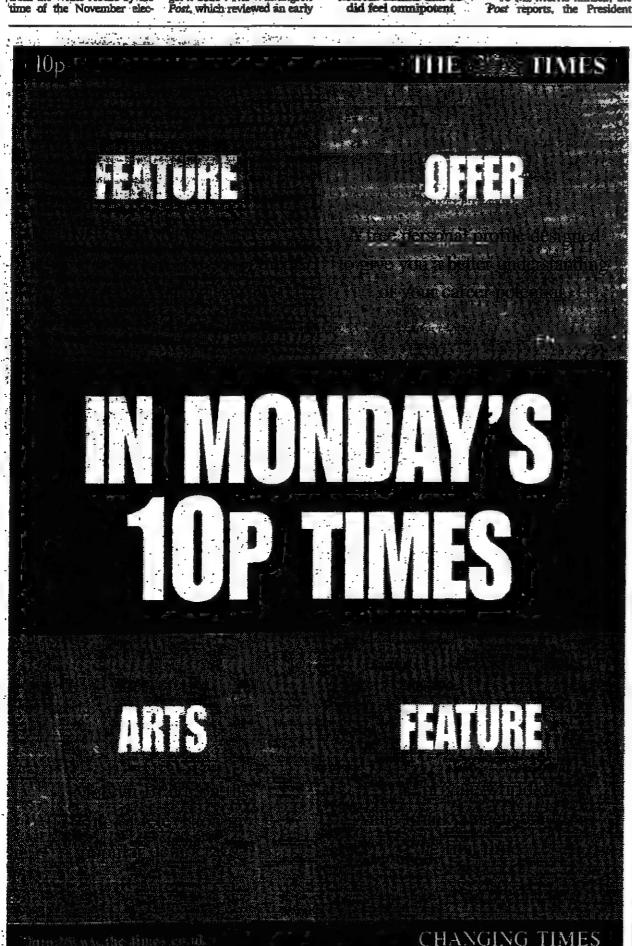




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MATTHIAS HIEKEL / EP/

# Disciplined line for Euro bank pleases Germany

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN AND CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

EUROPE'S future central the Germans and its mark- blow to the French approach, tough German-style approach to ensuring the purity of the single currency, setting the scene for further tension between Bonn and its partners over the implications of fostering a rock-hard euro.

The European Monetary Institute (EMI), which will become the European Central Bank, steward of the future euro, claimed yesterday at a Frankfurt press conference that its policy machinery would ensure the currency was at least as stable as the

The Germans were well satisfied with the report by the EMI. although it leaves open several key decisions. Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister. said the blueprint demonstrated that "price stability and solid finances are the unavoidable pillars of a successful monetary union". Fighting inflation is the top task for the bank under the Maastricht treaty, but conflict has been growing between Bonn and Paris over what France sees as the risk that the independent bank will pursue monetary strength with the single-minded zeal of the Bundesbank, now dictating Europe's inter-

President Chirac has upset

fund her luxury lifestyle.

power. (Reuter)

Tirana: Nexhmije Hoxha, widow of the

Albanian Stalinist dictator, Enver

Hoxha. left jail yesterday looking

dignified and unscathed after serving five years for embezzling state cash to

The 76-year-old embraced her two

During her husband's iron rule in

Europe's poorest and most isolated

state, his relatives held senior posts and

enjoyed privileges of which ordinary Albanians could only dream. Hoxha ruled for four decades until his death in

April 1985. A popular uprising toppled

Albanian communism in December

1990. His widow was arrested a year

later and sentenced in 1993 for misap-

propriating state funds and abuse of

sons and nephew who met her at the

gates of Tirana's top-security prison.

bank yesterday laid down a zone neighbours by leading a campaign for an economic council to balance the monetary drive by the central bank.

> This stirs German fears of political interference in interest-rate decisions that would bring a softer currency. While German public opinion is growing ever more worried about losing the mark to a weaker currency, pressure is rising in France for a euro that could be exchanged at a lower rate against the dollar, thus boosting European exports. Since most of the technical

preparations are now complete. the policy quarrel is likely to dominate the run-up this year to the choice of single currency members early in 1998. The currency will be launched in 1999.

Alexandre Lamfalussy, the EMI president, was at pains vesterday to insist that the new bank would not be a copy of the Bundesbank. "We have not taken over any model from any one country." he said.

Among big strategy choices left open by the EMI were the targets to use to ensure price stability. It narrowed the options to two: the monetary supply, as practised by the Bundeshank, or inflation rates, the approach favoured by the Bank of England. In a

Albanian ruler's widow freed

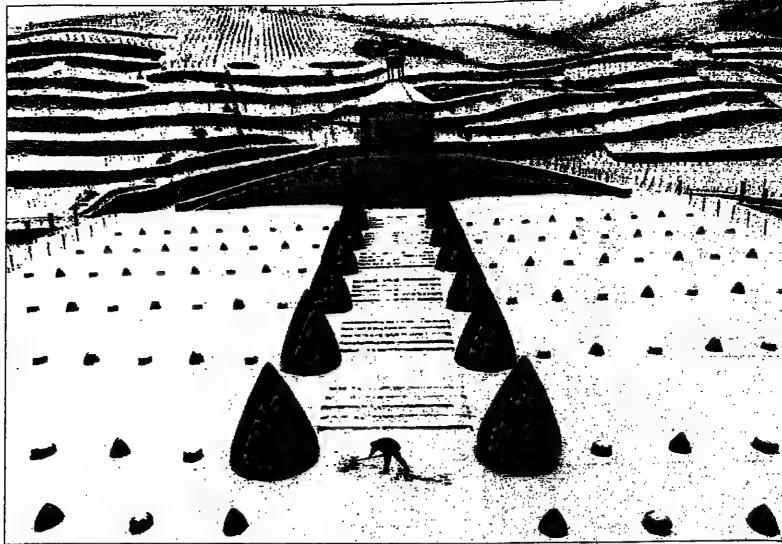
it ruled out the use of exchange rates as a target, saving this could interfere with the fight against inflation. Also discarded were exchange-rate targeting, interest-rate pegging, and nominal income targeting.

Market experts welcomed the EMI plans as the basis for sound monetary policy but noted that the central bank would need true independence from political interference. The euro had to be at least as stable as the current German mark, M Lamfalussy told the news conference.

The open question - still not answered by the EMI - is how far the central bank has to resemble the Bundesbank to reach that goal.

The final strategic decision will be made by the new bank next year, though the EMI said it intended to issue a comprehensive document outlining the pros and cons.

There was some quiet triumphalism in the air yesterday as the institute presented its report. The Single Monetary Policy in Stage Three. This claimed that technical preparations for the euro were well on track. The banknotes were displayed before Christmas. Now it was time for the tools available to the bank to



Snow brings a surreal look to the baroque terraced gardens, and the vineyards beyond them, at Wackerbarth Castle in Radebeul, near Dresden

#### Outcry at condoms for pupils

Turin school yesterday de-fended her decision to distribute condoms to pupils despite vociferous criticism from the Vatican and the local Catholic hierarchy (Richard Owen

Maria Luisa Vighi Miletto, principal of the Giordano Bruno High School, said the onsiaught on the condom policy by L'Osservatore Romano, the Vatican newspaper, was "an attack on my professional . . . sincerity". Distribution of condoms,

intended to counteract teenage pregnancies as well as Aids and other sexually contracted diseases, is due to start at the school next month. Pupils at the school said

they were surprised by the "media fuss" and regarded the move as commonsense. But some parents have withdrawn their children. The best source of resvera-

# Wine chemical 'fights cancer'

By Quentin Letts in new york and Jeremy Laurance, health correspondent

RED-WINE drinkers may wish to raise a glass to resveratrol, if they can wrap their loosened tongues around the word. A natural chemical of that name, in grape skins, has been found to prevent

Scientists from universities in Chicago and Madrid dosed cancerous rats with the chemical and concluded that it is one of the best natural anti-cancer agents yet discovered. It appears to block an enzyme which leads to the disease. It is hoped that the research could lead to diet supplements based on resveratrol which people could take to reduce their risks

of cancer. An alternative might be to drink enormous quantities of wine. However, cenophiles should note that to achieve the same dosages of resveratrol as given to the laboratory mice they would need to down five gallons of red wine a day.

trol is wine made from the cholesterol and reduce the risk Pinot-Noir grape such as Côtes de Nuits and Côtes de Beaune. A cheap bottle is even better than a fine Châteauneuf du Pape. Ageing tends to deplete the wine of its health-giving properties. Levels are higher in wines produced in damp, cool, mould-prone climates,

of blood clots. Some scientists believe that flavenoids can account for the "French paradox" - that the wine loving, fatty food-eating inhabitants of the Perigord region live long, healthy lives. Resveratrol was discovered in 1924 and identified in

6 A cheap bottle is better than a fine vintage as ageing tends to deplete wine of its health-giving properties 9

such as France, than in the drier regions of California and Australia. Even white and rose wines, from which grape skins are taken at an earlier stage in production, contain appreciable amounts.

The chemical is a flavenoid. one of a group of substances that give wine its colour and flavour, and which also lower

grapes in 1974, Research published in yesterday's issue of Science detailed its apparent ability to block the malignant work of carcinogens. Resvera-trol, according to test results, stopped the propagation of turnours and made carrierous

cells revert to normal. John Pezzuto, of the Univer

sity of Illinois, a senior scien-

tist in the research team, said: "Of all the plants we have tested, this one has the greatest promise. My hope is that one day we will be taking a dietary supplement as a cancer preventative, just like many people vitamins."

Resveratrol is also found in nuts, certain tree roots and mulberries, among other fruits. It has been used as a remedy in the Far East for centuries, extracted from Japanese knotweed and lilies.

John Poits, a cancer research scientist at the Univerity, of Wisconsin, School of Medicine, described the resveratrol research as "an important step forward" but said: "I do not think we should recommend that people eat a lot of grapes to prevent cancer, but the overall message is that fruits and vegetables are very useful against the disease."

Leading article, page 23

#acular

**Macular** 

# This winter, kids go free to Disneyland, Paris

Nexhmije Hoxha leaves prison in Tirana

yesterday. She was met by her two sons



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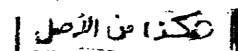
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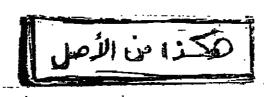




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# THE SUNDAY TIMES Fierce features An exclusive interview with the master of inspired lunacy, in The Sunday Times Magazine tomorrow. PLUS: Mark McCormack, the champion sports promoter; Georges Braque, the co-creator of cubism; A Life in the Day of Phil Collins; and Zoe Heller in New York THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS





# Turkish ministers warn Cyprus to scrap missile deal

TURKEY renewed its threat arises from an inability to esterday to launch preemptive strikes against Cyprus if it goes ahead with its purchase of Russian S300 surface-to-air missiles.

Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Foreign Minister, told a news conference in Ankara: "If they are deployed, we will do whatever we have to and if that means they need to be hit, they will be hit." Nicholas Burns, spokesman

for the American State Department, earlier criticised as vild and dramatic" a threat by the Turkish Defence Minister to respond to the missile purchase in the same way the United States threatened Cuba in 1962, by imposing a blockade on the island. Kofi Anan, Secretary-Gen-

eral of the United Nations. urged the two countries to show maximum restraint and said that the UN Charter forbids the use of force in such

Much of America's anxiety

second guess the Turkish Government, led by Necmettin Erbakan, the pro-Islamic Prime Minister. "He is not a man who owes us any favours," one US government

For Mr Erbakan, Cyprus's missile threat poses two im-mediate challenges: his first big foreign policy issue will



#### Tension threatens new move to reunite island

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSTA

THE Cyprus Government yesterday shrugged off threats of Turkish military action if it did not drop plans to buy Russian anti-aircraft missiles, insisting that it would continue its arms build-up despite a chorus of

international disapproval. Greek Cypriot officials also maintained that Turkey's belicose reaction had been encouraged by London and Washington because they had sharply criticised Cyprus's de-cision to sign the missile

The Turkish threats show

Yiannakis Cassoulides, the Cyprus government spokes-man, said. "Our defence programme will continue undeterred by these threats." He added that the Government's main focus of attention would still be on solving the longrunning Cyprus problem through diplomatic means.

But diplomats said that the missile deal had come at "the worst possible time" by increasing tension when a drive by Britain and the United States to reunite the sland is expected before Cyprus begins accession talks ith the European Union

also test his ability to cooperate with Turkey's traditional Western allies. Mr Erbakan was a member of the Government that dispatched troops to Cyprus in 1974. He has protested publicly, during his long years in opposition, that Ankara was wrong at the time not to have taken the

Abdullah Gul, the Turkish Government spokesman and a trusted Erbakan aide, has warned the Greek Cypriot Government that its decision to deploy missiles capable of hitting the southern coast of war. Mr Gul is a moderate in the ruling Welfare Party government coalition. But he warned the Greek Cypriots that "if Turkey makes up its mind, they won't be safe even with an atomic bomb".

With more than 60 million

Turks and fewer than a million Greek Cypriots, few doubt Ankara's ability to issue such a threat. But Western diplomats in the Turkish capital emphasise that Mr Er-bakan is capable of pragmatism and is unlikely to seek conflict for its own sake. The greater concern is that Mrs Ciller, whose True Path Party is the junior partner in the coalition, will latch on to the Cyprus issue to distract attention from domestic scandals that implicate her party and that may reach her.

Her hawkish pronounce ments yesterday appear to contradict the tactful line advised by her own ministry. "She is acting more as a spokeswoman for the army," Sedat Sertoglu, foreign editor

of the newspaper Sabah said. That interpretation echoes the biggest fears of Washing-ton, that it has lost influence with its principal ally in Ankara, the Turkish military. The two had enjoyed a special relationship at the height of the Cold Wart

#### Revived Polish cavalry stirs a nation



#### A squadron of lancers will bring pride to Nato, Roger Boyes writes

POLAND has started a recruiting drive for an elite cavalry unit in a move that is stirring memories of hopeless mounted charges against German tanks and dashing laneers in the service of Napoleon.

Strapping youths, between 5ft 9in and 6ft tall, are queueing to join the new squadron which is supposed to generate pride in the army on the eve of joining Nato. The Western alliance will soon have a handy new formation on its eastern frontiers," a Western diplomat said drily. "No fuel bills and sensitive to the environment." About 100 cavalrymen should

be trained in time for a parade on August 15 to mark the Polish victory over the Bolsheviks in 1920. On that occasion - which is sure to irritate Moscow - the troopers will don the prewar uniform of four-cornered caps, high boots and purple shoulder

The cavalry tradition in Poland closely follows the history of the country's aristocracy. Mounted officers were almost always drawn from noble families and their mess dinners resembled country house gatherings: good chefs served food on silver, family retainers were drafted into the regiment and many officers were related to each other. For ordinary troopers enlisting in the cavalry was a form of social mobility.

The communist regime was suspicious of this elitist enclave and promptly abolished the cavalry. Even now, Roman Jagielski, the Deputy Prime Minister and appointed chairman of the Association of the Cavairy Squadron of the Polish Republic, has to reassure Poles that the cavalry will be recruited from every social class.

At least some of the old spirit of

the lancers (known as Uhlans) was kept alive by the noncommunist version of the Polish Boy Scout movement which pason regimental songs and traditions. Most Polish schoolchildren have grown up with tales of battlefield daring, even if teachers under communism tended to play down the victory and emphasise the foolhardiness of the men on

The Polish cavalry under the command of Jan Sobieski saved Vienna from the Turks in t683 — a victory that ensured the wholehearted approval of cavalrymen by the Roman Catholic Church for the best part of another three centuries.

were fought against the Russians in 1920, but the image that has stuck is of the stubborn cavalry charges against invading German Rudnicki, in his 1974 memoirs Last of the Warhorses, recalls several battles waged by the 9th Lancers against Panzer units. Some tanks were immobilised but chiefly the cavalry succeeded in slowing the pace of the German invasion. The emotional connection of the

Polish cavalry with their doomed mounts emerges clearly in the general account of the German bombardment of Warsaw in late September, 1939, "Red glittering flames illuminated our horses . a few of them were lying dead. Kowalski's horse Cenzor was still alive, lying with its bowels ripped out. Not so long ago he had won the army's Challenge Cup in Tarnopol ... the next day somebody needing to still his own hunger would cut out a joint from his loins."

#### Crowd attacks parliament

press demands for early elections. They smashed furniture and equipment and set a room

Firefighters entinguished the blaze and police used bar-gas to prevent the protesters from serging the building. The crowd had broken through police cordons and smashed windows to gain easy. The police blocked entrances to the parliamentary chamber but

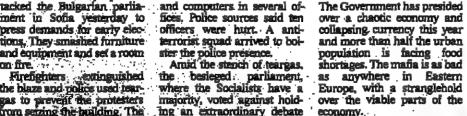
**Y.TIMES** 

collapsing currency this year and more than half the urban population is facing food shortages. The mafia is as bad as anywhere in Eastern Europe, with a stranglehold

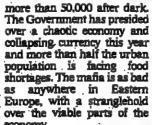
A European Union emergency aid programme is planned to start early next month, when serious bread shortages are predicted.

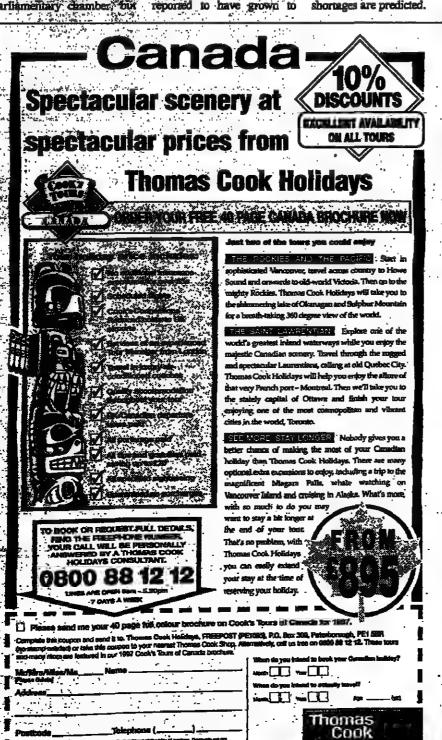
Holidays

#### By OUR FOREIGN STAFF HUNDREDS of people at the crowd smashed furniture more than 50,000 after dark.



the besleged parliament, where the Socialists have a majority, voted against holding an extraordinary debate on an opposition-sponsored salvation declaration which would lead to early parliamentary elections. The crowd was







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DAYS . MONDAY - SATURDAY 9.30-5,30 SUNDAY 10.00-4,00

# Viva the bulldog spirit

MADRID FILE

AS A new year's exercise, readers might try to guess which sabre-toothed Eurosceptic wrote the following: "When debating the euro, economic analysis usually counts for

nothing. Monetary union is peddled as a political nostrum to cure all ailments. I ometimes think that the Common Market should not have been founded in Rome but in Vienna, on

Dr Freud's couch. "The Germans want the union to stop them from falling into Nazi ways. The French want to be cured of an inferiority complex. The

by TUNKU VAŘADARAJAN The Sponiards want to bury Franco. The Portuguese want to be

French. The Greeks do not want to be Turks. Etc." Who is the author? Is it (a) John Redwood; (b) Bill Cash; (c) Woodrow Wyatt: or (d) William Rees-Mogg? The surprise answer is none them, but rather Pedro

#### Schwartz. Spain's leading right-wing economist. Señor Schwartz is Royalties end loyalties

AS IF to assure the British monarchy that they are not the only ones to have to tolerate the attentions of self-styled "royal experts", a Span-ish writer, Jaime Peñafiel, has just published a graceless book on Crown Prince Felipe of Spain.

Called And Who Will Save the Prince?, it follows his two previous books on the Oucen and King of Spain, entitled God Save the Queen, and May God Also Save the King. The author, a columnist with the newspaper El Mundo, was on the founding team of Hola magazine, enjoying privileged access to the Spanish Royal Family. Yet as the royal household, with time, wisely put some distance between itself and Señor Peñafiel, he metamorphosed from enthusiastic monarchist to extremely sour ex-monarchist. "And will God save Peñafiel?". wags now ask.

exotic tribe in a that has grown fat on handouts from Brussels that of the euroescépticos. The President of Fundesco - a think-

tank that studies the effects on society of information technology - he is forthright in the manner of a Tory backbencher, although clearly rather more of an intellectual. Detested on the Spanish Left, his weekly column in El País seldom fails to raise the hackles of Socialists and communists.

Politically liberal (in the

Thatcherite sense"), he lays into Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and President Chirac of France with undisguised gusto. The two of them are endangering Europe by pressing ahead with their project without carrying public opinion with them. They are building a monster which has French centralism for a head and iron Prussian discipline for a body. When I see Kohl and Chirac together. I quake in my boots." As a "self-respecting Spaniard", Señor Schwartz "rejects the Franco-German attempt to foist a federa-

tion and a single currency on proud



Pedro Schwartz "The Common Market should have been founded on Dr Freud's couch"

nation states". He is convinced, also, that Britain should "go it alone" if monetary union is finally achieved. He says: "Which country in Europe is genuinely democratic? Britain. Which is the one European state which is truly linked to North America, now the centre of Western civilisation? Again, Britain. Every other country is rootless, with politicians who hate their nation's past and want to be transformed into something else. Why should Britain share in such a project?" As for Spain, Senor Schwartz is scathing. "After all these years of Franco, it now wants to be with the big boys ... but Spain's uncritical keenness, paradoxically, means that the big boys will never treat it as anything other than a whipper-snapper. That is the sad truth.

Euro lies?, page 22

#### Backhand volley for Aznar

JOSÉ MARÍA AZNAR, the conservative Prime Minister, has been accused by a Spanish news magazine of accepting an unusual gift from an even more unusual source.

In its latest issue, El Siglo alleges that Senor Aznar has had a glass fibre "paddle-tennis" court installed at his official La Mondoa residence in Madrid, a present from the son of Placido Domingo, the opera singer. He is also called Plácido, and is a sports

goods manufacturer. The Prime Minister is an obsessive aficionado of the fast-growing sport — a form of tennis that is played with short-handled racquets and has had gentle games in the past against the portly

According to El Siglo, since Placido Jr has publicly ex-pressed the intention of selling paddle-tennis courts in Spain, Senor Aznar should not have accepted the gift. The Prime Minister's critics have called the revelations an

#### Kremlin doctor tells terrible patient Yeltsin to obey orders

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

be discharged from hospital as early as next week, but he will not be able to resume his full duties at the Kremlin until said yesterday.

Dr Sergei Mironov, the chief Kremlin physician, said the President's pneumonia had been brought on partly by his refusal to return to hospital for medical care.

"He should have been brought here a few days earlier and we proposed this." e said, confirming Mr Yeltsin's reputation as a terrible patient always pressing to be discharged from hospital.

"I understand him as a person, but as a doctor I have another position." he said. "Of course I cannot say Boris Nikolayevich [Yeltsin] feels comfortable spiritually. Of course, this is depressing him;

PRESIDENT YELTSIN may of course his mood is not a very happy one, but I see no

reason for pessimism." Although the Russian leader should be able to hold some meetings as early as next week, he will not be able to resume work at the Kremlin for another three weeks.

The announcement means that several important meetings and visits will have to be postponed or cancelled, including a summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States leaders, which has been put off to the end of the month. Meetings with the British, French and Dutch leaders, scheduled for the coming weeks, are also in doubt.

More important is the impression given that the work of the all-powerful presidency will once again be confined to the few hours each week when the Russian leader can meet

officials and sign documents from his sickbed.

Dr Mironov hinted strongly that henceforth the Kremlin medical team will have a much greater say on the President's work schedule, in particular his foreign trips, when his health is most at

The image of the ailing leader unable to perform his duties has prompted fresh comparisons with the final years of Leonid Brezhnev's tenure at the Kremlin, when the elderly Soviet leader could

Russia's stocks appeared to have recovered their confi-dence, despite midweek jitters caused by fears that the President's poor health could destabilise the country's economy. However, the Russian press did not share the confi-

#### Crash trio walk on sea to safety

Copenhagen: The unusually cold winter proved a boon to three people whose plane went down in the North Sea - because there was enough ice to enable them to walk gingerly to safety.

The plane landed about two

miles off Hoejer, near the German border, on Thursday afternoon after its engine stopped. It slowly broke through the ice, forcing pilot Kirstine Mortensen, who is four months pregnant, and her passengers to climb out. As the long Nordic night settled in, the three began making their way across ice floes, reaching land about seven hours after the crash, Ms Mortensen told a Danish television station yesterday.

The plane had sent an SOS but it was not picked up because it was flying too low. The three have been discharged from hospital. (AP)

# Hamas urges suicide attack

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

control of Yassir Arafat, the THOUSANDS of Islamic militants in the autonomous President of the Palestinian West Bank city of Nablus yesterday staged a raily and demanded another "big at-Authority. of Ayyash — known to Arabs as "the Engineer" — stood flanked by two rifles. The tack" against Jewish targets as part of their continuing campaign to sabotage the 1993 peace deal between Israel and

Organisation.
The 15,000 extremists were using the start of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan to commemorate the first anniversary of the assassination by Israeli agents of Yeihiya. Ayyash, the chief bombmaker of Hamas, the Islamic resistance movement. Yesterday's call to violence came less than mark the anniversary.: 24 hours after two pipe bombs rocked the centre of Tel Aviv.

wounding 13 people.

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, has vowed to respond "with severity" if the attackers are found

the Palestine Liberation

On the stage in a Nablus sports stadium, a 15st drawing

murdered man's grandfather held up Bara, the bombmaker's three-year-old son, for the crowd who chanted: "We want a big attack."

The Mossad killing of Ayyash last January was the trigger for four revenge suicide bombings in February

and March which cost more than 60 lives. Hamas has threatened more attacks to Ahmed Haj Ali, the Hamas leader, vowed to target the 145,000 Jewish settlers now living in the West Bank and

Gaza Strip. Their point of weakness is security," he told the crowd, who regard Ayyash

strength is our faith in paradise." There were fears in-Israeli security circles that the rally could signal a new round of suicide attacks. These have been halted

since last March by a combination of effective security and an unwillingness by Hamas to take action that might derail continuing, talks, aimed at securing an Israeli troop withdrawal from the holy West Bank city of Hebron.

Although these talks have run into major difficulties. Dennis Ross, the US special envoy, told Israeli officials yesterday that he would stay. in the region over the weekend in a continuing bld to break the stalemate.

This centres on deep differences between Israel and the Palestinians over the date of future Israeli troop withdrawals in the West Bank due to follow its handover of 80 per cent of Hebron to PLO control.

The escalating tension between Israel and the Palestinians was reflected in 70,000 Palestinian worshippers attended noon prayers in the compound of al-Aqsa mosque in the occupied east-

In his sermon broadcast live to Muslims around the world, Sheikh Hamed Beitawi, a leading Hamas figure, sharpy denounced Mr Netanyahu's Government. "Israel is beating the drums of war and aggression against Muslims and Islam," he told the faithful at the outset of a month of

fasting. Similar anti-Israeli sentiments were voiced in Jordan, which signed a peace pact with Israel in 1994. About 2.500 Jordanians took part in Muslim prayers outside Amman's first Israeli trade fair as part of continuing protests against the event.

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#### Palestinians' flying start

Jerusalem: The Palestiniams for years known as the world's most notorious hijackers, yesterday launched their own national airline with a maiden flight carrying udi Arabia (Christopher

Walker writes). Within minutes of each other, the entire fleet of Palestinian Airlines — two Dutch-made Fokker 50 air-

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looked tired after making the overland journey to the Egyptian port from Gaza.

"It is the dream of my life come true," said Jamal al-Hawa, a Palestinian pilot trained in former Yugoslavia who flew one of the two Many Palestinians en

rente to Mecca had to go by



A Palestinian crew waiting to take off yesterday

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THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY 11 1997



OPINION

**English National** Opera's decision to quit the Coliseum deserves reasoned debate, not instant scorn



THEATRE I

The Russian ciown Slava Polunin serves up a visual feast in Snowshow

THE



■ THEATRE 2

.. while the Gate offers much heavier fare: three late "chamber plays" by Strindberg



**MUSIC** 

Baton to watch: the fast-rising conductor Antonio Pappano steers the LSO through a memorable night

Those of us who are veteran organisers of kiddies' birthday parties — and proudly carry the scars to prove it — know that the one game you always avoid is musical chairs. First, it ruins the carpet. Secondly, letting small children run round in circles after feeding them jelly has unpredictable consequences. Thirdly, as the chairs are removed there are

inevitably tears, closely followed by tantrums and then thuggery. Why was I reminded of such merry scenes this week? Well, the wacky world of subsidised arts has been like a game of musical chairs recently, hasn't it? On the groaning table are billions of pounds, kindly donated by Uncle Lottery. And rushing round like demented toddlers - barging their way to the biggest piles of loot - are the bosses of London's culture palaces. One by one, they grab their seats and tear open the gift-wrapped parcels. To the Royal Opera House, £78 million! To Sadler's Wells, £30m! The Tate Bankside

at the Peacock

new opera house, say on the South Bank, is viable? It won't say, Does it believe there is still a need for opera sung in English? Er, no

comment. And don't quote us. The Arts Council will not even admit that it has been informally discussing ENO's plans with the company for months. It looked on benignly as ENO articulated its hopeless dream in 300 pages of painstaking detail (spending £1.4 million of the Arts Council's lottery allocation in the process). Then, at the first hint of trouble, the Arts Council's noble chairman and officers just melted away, leaving ENO to face the flak alone.

As so often, the Arts Council has displayed no strategy, no leadership, no backbone. The lottery offered a wonderful opportunity to sort out London's overlapping and near-bankrupt operatic life. In-stead, the big questions have constantly been fudged, dodged and fumbled. And ENO, the most affectionately regarded opera company in Britain, has been be-trayed. It's a sad start to 1997.

# Lottery backlash has floored ENO

the National Theatre £32m, the Albert Hall £40m, the Royal Court flom, the Globe fl2m, Kew Gar-

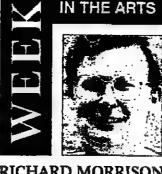
Then the music stops. Dotty old Grandpa Public Opinion has sud-denly woken up. He has taken one horrified look at the greedy brats scrabbling round his dining room, and ripped the gramophone out of its socket. The game's over. All the seats are occupied ... and just one sad little figure is left wandering round, morose and empty-handed.

Yes, step forward, English National Opera. This week, months after everybody else, it launched its bid for big lottery bucks. It wants to quit the London Coliseum and build a new theatre. The reaction has been extraordinary. If ENO had announced a complete season of Bulgarian operettas it would not gets £50m, Wembley Stadium have provoked greater hostility.

The London Evening Standard - fearless in its calls for a billion quid to be poured down the drain of the Millennium Exhibition -denounced ENO's plan as profligate in an editorial mysteriously printed before ENO had an-nounced its plan. David Mellor, frothing attractively at the mouth. accused ENO of committing "an outrageous breach of faith", a phrase which the first Mrs Mellor may have found grimly amusing. Paul Barker told his readers that

the Coliseum needs little more

than a "lick of paint". And The Independent's arts correspondent revealed her solution to the Coliseum's acute backstage problems: ENO, she explained, should expand by buying an adjacent block of flats and chucking the tenants out. Sadly she sniffed, this is an option which ENO "has not fully explored".



Indeed not. The late President Ceausescu organised his townplanning much better, didn't he? And so the sheeplike charus of baas and boos went on. If you need evidence that the tide of punditry

um valid? On this question nobody who has viewed the theatre's perilous backstage tangle of Edwardian pulleys and planks has any doubt. There may be a good case for ENO not building a new opera house, and instead touring the country, focusing on new work, nurturing young British singers, woolng young audiences, and operating out of a smaller

has turned against London as a recipient of lottery largesse, or

against opera houses - or, indeed,

against the arts in general receiv-

ire any more massive awards -

then this week's coverage provides

it. The bonanza is over. ENO's bad

luck is to arrive too late at the

trough. All the grub has been gobbled. The pigs have flown.

one thing. Leaving aside the matter of its poor timing, are its

arguments for ditching the Colise-

Yet ENO has a right to know

in the crumbling Coli. One could compare the theatre's machinery to Fleet Street presses before the arrival of new technology, but that would belittle the avant-garde qualities of hot metal. To expect a modern opera company, changing its repertoire four times a week. to

"patch up" this muddle is mad.

Sadler's Wells comes to mind.

But there is no case at all for

condemning it to perpetual decline

ere's another curious aspect to this mess. What does the Arts Council think about it? Does the Arts Council think? As usual, we have no idea. Does it support the notion two opera companies in London, equally funded, competing in identical repertoire with identical styles of staging? We don't know. Does it think that a

THEATRE: Slava Polunin brings his buffoonery to London; a Strindberg marathon worth the effort; and Frankenstein revisited

# Clowning with bluebottle

year-old buffoon who wears a baggy yellow baby suit, red hedgehogs on his feet and 4ft arrows. through his abdomen. Appearances, as any fool will tell you, can be deceiving. Having hosted his own television show for 16 years on the Soviet network, Polunin is as popular in Russia as Sid Caesar is in

 $(\mathcal{A}_{i},\mathcal{A}_{i},\mathcal{A}_{i},\mathcal{A}_{i})$ 

the second

1122

Snowshow Peacock Theatre

the States. Without having to open his mouth, however, he is infinitely more funny, and, as is the way with clowns, infinitely more melancholy. More Godot, I suspect, than

When we first see him he has a noose around his neck on a seemingly endless piece of rope. When he finally hauls discover Angela de Castro's panda eved clown on a noose at the other end.

Their mutual surprise flowers into a disgruntled mimetic relationship. Where Polumin leads, Castro in her ludicrous Deputy Davig outfit tries to follow.

Predictably Polunin, an undoubted control freak, has all the ideas. Against a throbbing electronic soundtrack, his sketches slide suggestively into each other like pieces of performance art. Lying on a burst of stage smoke later and metal bed frame, smoking a the scene is strangely trans-



Snowshow is "a supremely childish and delightful visual feast" from the Russian television star, Slava Polunin

pipe, he is suddenly bernused by the sight of a shark fin circling the stage. He discovers a woman stage right, wrapped in Cellophane like an Interflora bouquet. He tries to put her feet in a tiny vase. A burst of stage smoke later and formed into a hunting ground for a stillted monster.

But for all Polunin's bewitching art, it is the giant setpieces that sell this show. Sweeping with his broom, his sleeve gets caught on a spider's web that unravels into an enormous spun-cotton drag-

net. As he staggers down one of the aisles, the web, with a lot of willing help from the audience, miraculously flows over the stails. When Polunin clambers back on stage a bluebottle the width of the proscenium crash-lands on his head - the inspired

squashed by the ridiculous Despite its theatrical brilliance. Snowshow makes no great theatrical demands. It is a delightful visual least with the emotional stamina of a Punch and Judy show. It is supremely childish. But I suspect the real reason we will always welcome Polunin is because he looks like a customised version of Bill Murray in Ground Hog Day destined to tramp the theatrical fringes with his spectacular illusions and mad-

professor hairstyle for eter-

THE young British-born, American-trained conductor

Antonio Pappano has been

hitting the headlines for some

time with outstanding perfor-

mances in the pit and on the

podium. Thursday's concert,

opening the London Sympho-

marked his debut with that

orchestra, and a memorable

but he gets the results. So long did he sustain the suppressed

pianissimo excitement at the

start of Smetana's Bartered

Bride overture that the tension

became well nigh unbearable.

The explosions, when they came, were all the more

potent, and the knife-edge

precision of the strings, hur-

tling by at top speed, had to be

Fifth Symphony was slightly

too well-manicured to be con-

vincing, but thereafter Pap-

pano's judgment was irre-

proachable. The main theme

of the Allegro was so graceful-

ly executed that every return

was a delight, while wood-

wind counterpoints curled

round it seductively. The lilt-

ing rhythms of the third-

movement waltz ensured that

it really danced, while the

swirling orchestration of the

finale built to an impassioned

climax. High woodwind cries

heard to be believed.

encounter it proved.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

#### THERE were times during this four-hour voyage when I felt like a critical *Tuanic* after a collision with a big Strind-Paranoia berg. I also admit that only by shoving my Biro into my thigh past and did I successfully resist the invitation inherent in Agate's present dictum that "sleep is a form of criticism". But I am not being disingenuous when I say that the trip was worth it. In any

Gate, WII

swings unpredictably from the cynical and angry to the resigned; but by Strindberg's standards these plays are not especially mad.

Both plays end in what's meant to be a spirit of acceptance and resignation; but you may find the Strindbergian feelings of grievance and (at times) paranois more eloquent, at least in Wils Wilson and Loveday Ingram's admirably plain, unpretentious productions. But it is Georgina Van

The Chamber Plays

ln Storm John Grillo's aging Man discovers that the violent musician living above him is his ex-wife's second husband, and their supposed child is really Man's. In After the Fire, Dudley Sutton's Stranger is the long-lost brother (or maybe that brother's ghost) of the Master-Dyer who persecuted him as a child. stole his inheritance and has now fired the ancestral home of their corrupt family in hopes of getting the insurance.

Welie's revival of The Ghost Sonata that is the pick of the proceedings, for, despite a religiose ending, it does justice to a seldom-performed masterpiece. Here, the elegant

Alan MacNaughtan is the power-mad Hummel, who comes to destroy the fake 'Colonel" who has married his ex-fiancée and unwittingly accepted Hummel's daughter as his own. With Diana Fairfax as a woman who has speni 20 years crouched in a corner screeching like a parrot. Graham Kent as a vampire cook with a hatchet, and other oddballs on the periphery, it offers a picture of domestic hell. Very weird, very imaginative, very Strindberg.

BENEDICT **NIGHTINGALE** 

#### A monster of a novelist

PLAYS about famous dead artists often tumble into bathos when celebrated incidents or encounters have to be introduced. The dialogue tries to be conversational — "See here, Michelangelo, I'm the Pope and I want that ceiling finished now!" - but some-

case, the three late, late Strind-

berg plays in the programme

are mostly being presented in

pairs rather than trios. Look

for Storm and The Ghost

Sonata, or After the Fire and

The Ghost Sonata; but don't

before his death, for the Inti-

mate Theatre he founded in

Stockholm. Although each is

shortish, and was designed for

a small space, they all have

large casts peopled by generic-

sounding characters: the Milkmaid, the Confectioner,

the Student, the Dead Man.

And in each someone visits a

house oddiv marooned be-

tween the real and symbolic,

where he faces out a still-

troubling past. The mood

miss Ghost Sonata itself. Strindberg wrote his "cham-ber plays" in 1907, five years

how it doesn't convince. Liz Lochhead avoided such traps in the play she wrote ten years ago about Mary Shelley's creation of Frankenstein. She is a poet herself, which must have helped to get the tone right, and although one can imagine the play performed on radio without loss of clarity, it holds the stage as a clever and touching account of Mary's prickly solemnity and the odd circumstances surrounding her famous book. I had not noticed that the name she gives

Blood and Ice New End, NW3

to the child killed by the unnamed monster is that of her own little boy. Shelley, Byron, the unfortu-nate maid Elise, and Claire

Clairmont are the other living characters — the last nicely described in the programme as "Mary's stepsister and millstone" - but there is also the Creature himself, no Boris Karloff but as handsome as Shelley. He addresses Mary as Frankenstein, which in a sense she is, but although Lockhead develops parallels between what Mary wrote and how she lived the two strands don't adhere to make a convincing argument. However, you can put this

tion, on an artfully spare set by Douglas Heap where the actors are dressed in shades of brown, fawn and cream. All six, recently out of drama school, give precise, nuanced performances auguring well for their futures. The interplay is excellent, where Molly Gaisford's grave and clearsighted Mary must deal with the hopelessly self-deceived Claire (Poppy Hill). or the boyishly impassioned Shelley of Justin Trefgame distances

reservation aside and enjoy

John Link's smooth produc-

Ironic Byron. Amanda Morely and Luke de Lacey play the other characters, victims both, although one of them has the consolation of immortality.

himself from Luke Shaw's

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ny Orchestra's spring season, can be made to tear through the texture more remorselessly, but Pappano's well-balanced, admirably calibrated Pappano's posture and stick account succeeded perfectly in technique may look awkward. its own terms.

Top marks to Pappano, too. for taming the notorious LSO brass. I have lost count of the number of times I have heard scores ruined by macho brass sections - this orchestra is an arch-offender, but the problem is a global one - allowed to oblicerate important detail. Under Pappano's direction the brass dominated only when called to do so. This was the The phrasing of the slow introduction of Tchaikovsky's LSO once again on world-

beating form. Jan Smaczny's programme note told of a legend that Dvořák preferred his Violin Concerto to that for cello. Posterity has reversed that assessment, and with good reason. Yet Maxim Vengerov is better equipped than most to win new admirers for the former, bringing warm lyricism, finely crafted phrasing and immaculate technique to bear in his performance.

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**BONHAMS** 

# Man is born free — and in chains for his own good

Conor Cruise O'Brien on Burke,

Jefferson, Rousseau and the IRA

The Long Affair: Thomas Jefferson and the French Revolution made the point that in commenting on Jefferson, I also had Northern Ireland in mind. I was surprised by this point as I had not been conscious of making any such connection. On reflection. however, I find that the connection does indeed exist. It arises from what Jefferson wrote about France and Britain.

One of Jefferson's most enduring fantasies, which continued throughout the ten-year duration of the French Revolution, hinged on a wish that the French revolutionaries would conquer Britain. In one letter, dated February 23, 1798, Jefferson replies to a correspondent who had apparently expressed some qualms about Jefferson's rejoicing in the thought of the subjugation of the British by

French revolutionary armies.

Jefferson wrote: The subjugation of England would indeed be a general calamity. But happily it is impossible. Should it end in her only being republicanised, I know not on what principle a pure republican of our country could lament it . . . I do not indeed wish to see any nation have a form of overnment forced on them, but if it is to be done. I should rejoice at its being a freer one."

They may not be subjugated, but if the government forced upon them is "a freer one", Jefferson would rejoice. The concept that people might and should be "forced to be free" originated with Roussezu in Du Contrat Social. Jefferson never acknowledged any intellectual or moral debt to Rousseau, but the debt is evident in the peremptory paradox.

And it is in this paradox that the link with Northern Ireland today comes in. As shown in every general election for more than 100 years, a majority of the population in the area now known as Northern Ireland wish to remain in the United Kingdom. But this wish has never been acceptable to Irish nationalists, who make up a major-ity in the island as a whole. Some Irish nationalists, in the IRA, are using force to bring to Northern Ireland a version of freedom which a majority of the people of Northern ireiano are known to reject. Ir short, these people are to be forced

The idea of forcing other people to be free, as the enforcer conceives of freedom for these people, has been around for more than 200 vears. It was one of the guiding principles of the French Revolution. in its expansionist phrases. Those in each country who wished to embrace the French Revolution might be only a small minority, but they were the only people who

Most Belgians did not want to become part of the French Revolution. But what most Belgians wanted did not matter for such an ardent champion of the French Revolution as Jules Michelet, Michelet neatly divided the population of Belgium into two groups: those who wanted to be part of France (and therefore free) and those who did not. The former were les vrais Belges, the latter les faux Belges.

It didn't matter what the faise Belgians thought or felt about Belgians thought and felt that counted. As for the false Belgians. who didn't actually want the freedom that France was offering them. must be forced to be free.

Modern Irish nationalists do not possess the Cartesian clarity and intellectual daring of the great Michelet. These nationalists do not actually say that the Protestants of Northern Ireland are "false Irishmen" who must be forced to be free. But that is the general idea behind

reviewer of my recent book the Irish nationalists' drive, especially in its manic form, as cher-

ished and practised by the IRA.

The neatest deflation of Rousseau's peremptory style and man-ner of thinking is in a phrase by Faguet, Faguet quotes Rousseau's famous phrase "Man is born free, but everywhere is found enslaved and in chains", and comments: "It would be equally correct to say that sheep are born carnivorous and

everywhere eat grass."
Edmund Burke intensely disliked the mode of thinking and the forms of eloquence that are common to Rousseau and Jefferson: the striking, confident generalisations, the cult of freedom as an absolute. Burke stresses limits, cautious against the charms of the peremptory and of the overbearing.

The following passage from On Conciliation with America (1775) is

My hold of the colonies is in the close affection which grows from common names, from kindred blood, from similar privileges and equal protection. These are ties which, though light as air. are as strong as links of iron. Let the colonies always keep the idea of their civil rights associated with your government, they will cling and grapple to you and no force under Heaven will be of power to tear them from their allegiance. But let it be once understood that your government may be one thing and their privileges another, that these two things exist without any initial relation - the cement is gone, the cohesion is loosened, and everything hastens to decay and dissolution.

As it duly did. Burke hated Rousseau - more than he hated anybody else, I think, except Warren Hastings — and has a splendid denunciation of him in his Letter to a Member of the National Assembly (1791). Rousseau, he says, was led "to exhaust the stores of his powerful rhetoric in the expression of universal benevolence, while his heart was incapable of harbouring one spark of common parental affection". He cites Rousseau's abandonment of all his five children to the found soon as born, and adds the marvellous comment: "The bear loves, licks and forms her young; but bears are not philosophers.

uriously (and sadly, as I think), Burke left us no equivalent comment on Thomas Jefferson, Indeed, he left us no comment at all on Jefferson. although Jefferson, during the last years of Burke's life, was as fierce a friend of the French Revolution as Burke was an enemy. Burke knew from Tom Paine of Jefferson's support for the French Revolution. but did not comment. He always denied the continuity of the French Revolution with the American one, but ignored Jefferson's assertion of

that continuity. Burke ignored Jefferson, but Jefferson did not ignore Burke. On receiving Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France. Jefferson immediately decided that Burke's attack on the French Revolution showed that his support for the American Revolution had been hypocritical: "How mortifying that this evidence of the rottenness of his mind must oblige us now to ascribe to wicked motives those actions of his life which wore the mask of virtue and patriotism."

Burke probably never learnt of this wild attack, but if he had he would almost certainly have ignored it. His enemies in Britain were saying the same sort of thing - though less wildly - and these were the attacks he found it necessary to

#### The Referendum Party's advertisement is an absurd distortion of history, says John Campbell

I f you are going to accuse others of deceit it is wise to be honest yourself. But the Referendum Party's advertisement in yester-day's newspapers claiming to offer "chilling proof" that Ted Heath and others "lied to us on Europe" is itself misleading. The evidence presented, a letter to Heath from "Britain's Lord Chancellor" spell-ing out the constitutional implica-tions of British entry into the Community, proves no such thing.

First, the letter reproduced is not. as was implied, written by Heath's Lord Chancellor (that is Lord Hailsham of Marylebone) around 1970, but ten years earlier in December 1960, by Harold Macmillan's Lord Chancellor, Lord Kilmuir, when Heath was no more than Lord Privy Seal charged with testing the water for a possible application. The Cabinet did not even decide to apply to join until the following July. The letter was evidently a response to a request from Heath for legal advice and formed part of the normal process of consultation before the Government made its decision.

So the letter is not, as is suggested, a sensational discovery. It has been sitting in the Public Record Office since 1991. Nor is the content in the least surprising. It is precisely the sort of advice you would expect the Government's

# Did Heath deceive Britain over Europe?

It simply demonstrates that the Macmillan Government - and, one must assume, all subsequent governments, Conservative and Labour, which pursued and eventually achieved membership of the Community — were perfectly aware of the constitutional implications. The Referendum Party is trying to revive the allegation that those governments were not as frank as they might have been in sharing those implications with the electorate. But that is an old argument to which Kilmuir's letter

adds nothing at all.

Since the party has now made available the complete letter more than is legible in the advertisement — It is possible to see it as an admirably clear assessment of the implications of signing the Treaty of Rome. I must Treaty of Rome. I must emphasise," Kilmuir writes, "that in my view the surrenders of

to persuade Parliament or the public to accept them."

He goes on: "I am sure that it would be a great mistake to underestimate the force of the objections to them. But these objections ought to be brought out into the open now because, if we attempt to gloss over them at this stage, those who are opposed to the whole idea of our joining the Community will certainly seize on them with more damaging effect later on." This was certaintly a warning

which Heath, his colleagues and successors might have done well to heed. They are all of them — including Margaret Thatcher in signing the Single European Act - open to the charge that in their anxiety to win support for what seemed to them at the time an urgent national interest they laid insufficient emphasis on the future development of the Community. But that does not

legal adviser to give before a major constitutional departure. It is certainly not proof of deceit.

sovereignty involved are serious begin to justify the charge of lying ones and I think that, as a matter or At worst they were guilty of practical politics, it will not be easy stressing the immediate benefits over the distant costs - scarcely an unusual oversight in politicians.

But Heath never disguised that his conception of Europe was a political community or denied that it would involve some progressive pooling of sovereignty: he was scornful of those who saw sovereignty as something to be hoarded in the national cellar, to be inspected periodically and put away again.

If he, Roy Jenkins and the other leading pro-Marketeers in both parties did not spell out all the details, that was because no one could tell exactly how the Community would evolve: the important thing was to be in it. so as to be able

in fluence its evolution.

In fact, an astonishingly ambitious programme was laid down in 1972. In Paris that October — three months before Britain actually joined - Heath, Pompidou and Brandt agreed to press on with

economic and monetary union by the end of the decade. The 1973 oil crisis made nonsense of that timeta-ble; but the point is that hardly a murmur of opposition was raised at the time. No one could claim at the time of the 1975 referendum that the goal of monetary union had not been spelt out.

In 1960 when Kilmuir wrote his letter, and still in 1973 when Heath led Britain into Europe, the governments of the day considered the implications of some loss of sovereignty and judged it worthwhile Enoch Powell was a member of Macmillan's Government which applied in 1961, and did not reverse his support for membership till 1968; Thatcher was in Heath's Cabinet, and did not turn against

further integration until 1988. The difference is that a generation ago we were not so frightened. We still considered ourselves a great power: we talked of "leading" Europe, just as Germany today is willing to trade national sovereignty for influence in a larger entity. The Referendum Party's fear of Europe, which leads to such hysterical distortions as yesterday's advertisement, is simply a measure of the decline of British confidence.

Dr John Campbell is the author of Edward Heath (Pimlico). He is currently

# Why the best of us still dare

The British crave danger — but expect others to be risk-averse

o doubt of the heroes of this week. Tony Bulli-more and Richard Branson have ventured, and failed in style. They have performed the task that the British expect of their 20th-century adventurers. They have taken on the world, the world has given them a bloody nose and they have responded with courage, dignity and hum-our. From Scott of the Antarctic to Frank Bruno, a tradition has been honoured. When Mr Branson's monumental stunt came to a premature end, he praised the Aigerian Army. When Mr Bullimore was hauled from the Indian Ocean, he praised his suit. An Englishman in trouble always thanks his regiment and his tailor. These days, any regiment and any tailor will do.

i am deeply en-vious of both men. In the days of my youth, I and some friends drew up a tally of precocious tasks adventurous soul should attempt in lifetime.

vaguely recall it listed trekking the jungle, racing a horse, climbing the Matterhorn, witnessing a war, rewriting Don Juan and dining at La Tour d'Argent. The list definitely embraced crossing the Sahara and sailing an ocean. No human being could claim to know the planet until these tasks had been accomplished.

Needless to say, the bravado has lapsed. Fate at some point took me to the jungle and a war. But altitude sickness hit me on the Matterhorn and gailoping is firmly prohibited in Rotten Row. The world and I have narrowed our horizons together. La Tour d'Argent is not what it was and Don Juan has only caused trouble. As Byron reflected on reaching 30: "My heart is not much greener and, in short, I have squandered my whole summer while twas May." Even his lust for a duel was now confined to famoderate desire of killing one's more personal enemies".

So to watch two Britons tackle both the Sahara and the ocean in one week has been painfully nostalgic. I had both trips in mind, when had finished the crossword and cleared out the artic. Bullimore and Branson not only taunt us with their enterprise, but with their age. Branson is 46. Bullimore 56. while that other modern adventurer. Sir Ranulph Flennes, is 52. His retreat from Antarctica was last month's heroic failure. Fifty is clearly the age that separates the men from the boys. The first man to sail singlehanded round the globe, Joshua Slocum, did so at the age of 51 (in 1895). So there are no excuses. Back

to the lists, Jenkins. Up and at 'em. Which brings me to the Health and Safety Executive. Two phenomena are noted by today's philo-sophers of risk. One is that the human inclination to danger appears undiminished. If anything, it is enhanced by age and the greater accessibility of natural challenges. The other is that, despite seeking danger ourselves, we expect others to be risk-averse. We want to do crazy things ourselves, but everybody else, including the Government, must strive to make that

craziness sale. As the risk theorist John Adams puts it: "In the dance of the risk

thermostats, the music never stops." Reduce risk in one area of life and we strugin another to comrespond to safer cars (and seat-

belts) by driving faster. We scream about the risk of BSE in Britain, but gamble with our guts over tandoori chicken in Agra.

In other words, we are hypocrites about risk. Roads must get ever safer, restaurants more spotless and insurance more lavish. Councils are to be sued if they leave so much as a paving stone jutting on edge — by a lawyer who will boast a macho walk through the Hindu Kush. We want to dice with death, but expect the Government and insurance industry to rescue us if we misjudge the odds. And if they fail to honour their side of this

unequal bargain, we sue.

The millions of pounds that the Royal Australian Navy and Air Force spent rescuing Mr Bullimore was in the tradition of the sea. This was despite him being more than the 1.500 miles from shore within which every nation has a duty to assist a vessel in distress. A ship must also rescue another ship, at a cost normally covered by insurance. But modern satellite equipment means that any sailor anywhere can now be considered rescuable. This must question the risk to rescuers' lives of rescuing round-the-world racers who take the short cut across the Southern Ocean and put themselves thousands of miles from sensible help. They must take this route knowing subconsciously that technology



Passepartout's uneasy ride on an elephant in Jules Verne's Around the World in Eighty Days

lowers the risk of them getting lost. In Dr Adams's terms, these sailors are re-establishing the pretechnology balance of risk. They want to experience the same danger as did Slocum in the 1890s. The difference is that Slocum later sailed from Rhode Island on another voyage, and he and his boat were never seen again. Arthur Ransome wrote in his superb introduction to Slocum's memoirs, for all we know "they are sailing still and will sail on and on". Today the world would have followed their path by satellite and heard

any cries for help. Likewise with Mr Branson, Time was when merely rising off the ground was extremely hazardous. Phileas Fogg and Passepartout barely risked their gondola above a hundred feet. Aeronautics makes hot air ballooning safer, so Mr Branson seeks the upper jetstream. to outdo Fogg and restore the balance of danger and adventure. He increased the risk, to the point of failure. Had he come down in the Sahara in Fogg's day he would probably have vanished. Branson and his team had instant rescue.

Their danger was thus mitigated, though real. (I note that when a mother, Alison Hargreaves, risked and lost her life in 1995 on K2, she was widely criticised for neglecting her family duties: British heroes can be fathers but not mothers.)

The prospect before us is both exhilarating and alarming. It is of ever more reckless adventurers attracting ever greater publicity. They will climb Everest blindfold or row a bath-tub round the world or shoot themselves into space and we will cheer them on. Adventure holidays will boom: Amazonia and the Himalayas will dog with

et this enthusiasm will see an equal and opposite boom in safety authoritar-ianism. Already the regulations for organised sailing, riding and mountaineering render such activities expensive and even dull. A canoeing tragedy in Devon two years ago was greeted by an army newspapers, politicians and safety inspectors demanding to know how such an accident "could have been allowed to happen". I am

told that sail training in oldfashioned schooners has, like commercial boating on the Thames. been all but wiped out by Department of Transport inspectors since

the Marchioness disaster. The quest for danger has had to find ever more eccentric outlets. Young people skydive, race motorbikes and take drugs, Like the players in Guys and Dolls, they will find somewhere to shoot dice with death. Leisure-time accidents have replaced disease as the commonest cause of fatality among the young, with men twice as likely to die as women. Many take their craving for danger offshore. Bulli-more and Branson made their own risk assessments. They did not rely on government to do it for them. They came unstuck but will surely seek to blame no one but themselves and the gods of misfortune.

Every time we lengthen the odds on danger, someone shortens them again. We salute them for it. In doing so, they restore our respec for nature, and remind us of the silliest statistic of all. The human being's risk of death is aways one hundred per cent.

# Chalk and cheese

packs her mosquito repellent before heading for Angola tomorrow. the Foreign Office is getting out of that country sharpish. Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Minister for Overseas Development, will be touching down on her return from Africa just as the Princess takes off. Although the Foreign Office was

Princess's trip, it made no effort to link Lady Chalker into the schedule. The country simply isn't big enough for both ladies: Lady Chalker has never forgotten how the glamorous Princess attracted more flashbulbs in Nepal three years ago, when both of them toured together.

There are well-founded reports that Lady Chalker felt her visit had



Lady Chalker and the garlanded Princess: smiling through



been overshadowed by the Princess of Wales," said one commentator, They both were at pains later to deny any difficulties. But Baroness Chalker would, wouldn't she. She was head girl at Roedean."

The Red Cross, organising the Princess's visit, said yesterday that it had never been informed of Lynda Chalker's visit to Angola. The Foreign Office explained: "Entirely two separate operations. There's no link between them."

#### Will power

EVEN for the most ardent Kennedy tat merchants, this is top-shelf stuff: 'The Last Will and Testament

of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. Collector's Edition Authentic Reproduction with Original Signature." The American publishers Caroll & Graff rell us that "this deluxe facsimile of the complete, unedited will ... a beautiful yet unadorned document, is both a keepsake and a memory book . . . The book has gilt-edged pages and that undefinable "heirloom qualiny". It makes O.J. Simpson's auto-biography look like The Downing Street Years.

#### Charming

MOLESWORTH lives on in the onky corridors of Harrow School. where snakes have become the favourite pet. Usually, the snakes are kept in the biology centre. When the centre closed early at the end of last term, however, they had to be transferred to the spare bedroom of a particularly brave house matron.

"We did have about ten snakes and a chameleon but we are now down to about four," said one inksmudged ophiophile.

There was a boa constrictor and a royal python. We feed them frozen mice and rats but some of the

boys have fridges in their rooms to keep a supply."

 Dick Francis may soon find himself supplanted in the affections of the Royal Family by a rival author. Frederick Forsyth, writer of thrillers such as The Day of the Jackal, defended the royals so stoutly during the shambolic Carlton debate on the monarchy on Tuesday that



he has become the new hero at Buckingham Palace. Honours are expected.

#### Paris match

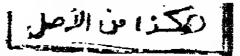
THROUGHOUT what promises to be a tricky Ashes series this summer, Mike Atherton can keep up his wilting gander by thinking of September and his benefit tour to Champagne. After ten years of county cricket, Atherton, a Lancashire man, and a whole charabanc of former England captains, including Graham Gooch, David Gower, Ian Botham and Bob Willis, are planning a tour, the high-light of which will be a match against France at the Château de Thoury near Paris.

The boys are travelling over by Eurostar, courtesy of Atherton's wine merchant. Lay & Wheeler, and though Atherton himself prefers white burgundy to champagne, will take in the houses of Bollinger, Venve Clicquot and Laurent Perrier. Too much boozing, however, and the loss to Zimbabwe may seem like small beer. The only time they met, in 1989, France whipped MCC.



Atherton: whining

 Next time the Tate Gallery needs to raise funds, it might recall a decision made by the board in 1966. and now revealed in official papers released after 30 years. Two pic-tures by David Hockney were of-fered to the Tate for £60 each. Both, O for a gentle Lover and UN FMM, were rejected — too racy, apparently. Early Hockneys these days go for hundreds of thousands



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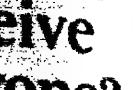
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#### **GAS AND GAITERS**

Bishops should be political, but not partisan

Some Christians may feel that the only place bishops should oppose each other is on the chessboard. The sight of right reverend gentlemen crossing croziers in the election campaign will offend those who expect the Church to concentrate on the next world, not this one. But churchmen have a right, indeed duty, to address themselves to moral questions and these will inevitably shade into the political. The objection to the Bishop of Edinburgh's intervention on behalf of Tony Blair should not be that he sensed the need to speak, but that he spoke so little sense. His undergraduate essay in The Church Times looks all the more inappropriate next to the more measured words of the Archbishop of York. Although Archbishop Hope spoke before The Church Times went to press his thoughtfulness is the

best rebuke to Bishop Holloway's banalities. Although politicians might be tempted to remind the Church that there should be a strict demarcation between God's dominion and Caesar's, the border has always been porous and is becoming even more so. Both Archbishop Hope and Bishop Holloway are members of the Anglican communion. As Anglo-Catholics they might consider their Church the Church of St Augustine, but it is an Erastian foundation. The established status of the Church of England with bishops in the House of Lords and the Prime Minister supervising preferment binds it into the political life of the nation.

. If John Major were to consider prelates now more politicised than ever, he might turn to his favourite author for enlightenment. In Anthony Trollope's Barchester Towers the opening chapters reflect the importance of political colouring in the 19th. century in deciding on the candidates for vacant dioceses. Bishops have greater justification than in the recent past for addressing political questions. The excursions into amateur theology by the Prime Minister and Mr Blair and the fumbled public appetite for ethical renewal legitimise

interventions from the Church. Although bishops have an important role to play in political debate it should not be as politicians in purple. The authority of the Church, and the influence of any intervention, will be all the greater if bishops refrain from agitprop rhetoric and narrowly partisan stances. Bishop Holloway's observation that the "moral vision of Socialism has always been higher than that of Conservatism, and it was Karl Marx who understood why" is almost beyond satire.

It would be offensive to those millions of Christians who have suffered and continue to suffer under Marxist oppression if it were not so obviously naive. The Gospel is the possession of no party. Conservatives might lay more stress on original sin and respect for authority; progressives might stress Jesus's embrace of the excluded and disdain for the material. Neither group is the exclusive guardian of the tabernacle.

That sense permeates the words of David Hope, an effective theological college principal and skilful Bishop of London who shows every sign of proving an impressive Archbishop of York. Offering a gentle, and welcome, reproof to earlier interventions from other hishops interpreted as supportive of Labour, Dr Hope argues that "overriding pessimism has to be tempered and balanced by a recognition of some positive factors about where Britain is".

The archbishop also displays a more sophisticated approach to tackling want than many of his colleagues, remarking that "there is evidence from across the world that welfare destroys as much as it protects". Dr Hope's implication, that individual moral choices matter more than collective political decisions in ensuring human dignity, is the sort of insight a bishop should lend to politics. In an election that seems destined to descend into all kinds of name-calling, there will be a need for more still, small voices of attempts of both parties to appropriate the good sense such as Dr Hope's.

#### **ASIAN BATTLEFRONTS**

Enthusiasts for stakeholding should look quickly east

The strikes in South Korea yesterday claimed their first serious casualty when a Hyundai striker set fire to himself. The 200,000 angry protesters have already made union unrest in Germany or even France seem as bland as mineral water. Across the Sea of Japan in Tekyo, hivesters are dump-ing stock at a furious rate. They doubt whether Japanese growth will exceed 1.5 per cent this year, and they know that its debtladen Government, which has already spent DIRROU OU LENSING THE CONOMY SINCE. the "Japanese bubble" burst, has run out of both fiscal and monetary ammunition.

The two "unbeatable" Asian economies of the 1980s have taken severe knocks this decade; and for their citizens, the novelty of job insecurity is the culmination of a series of cultural and political shocks. If the Labour Party really believes that the "stakeholder society" which Japan could be said to have pigneered points the way to Britain's future prosperity, it should look carefully at these quivering Asian seismographs.

Japan's troubles may prove temporary precisely because both politicians and public are finally confronting the truth that its Establishment has long dodged, which is that deregulation offers the only solid basis for regaining competitive elan. But the benefits of the reforms now in the pipeline will not show for some time. South Korea has a still longer, and much rockier, road ahead. The Government's bruising battles with the traditionally militant unions that form its industrial élite are a foretaste of the troubles it can expect as it opens up the economy and dismantles the interventionist

machinery of state-guided capitalism. Reform of South Korea's labour laws, unchanged for 43 years, is overdue for two reasons. They are too restrictive, forcing much legitimate union activity into the domain of illegality; and they compensate workers for lack of freedom by making it all but

impossible for employers to shed labour. Democracy has exacerbated these anomalies, widening the wage gap between average workers and the 15 per cent who are unionised. For the past decade, employers who could no longer count on riot police to supposs union agitation have bought industrial peace with wage rises averaging 15 per cent a year, in deals not remotely compensated by rises in productivity. South Korea has become a high-cost economy with a se trade deficit. The Government is also under pressure at home and abroad to ease military-era controls on workers' rights.

President Kim Young Sam has, however,

gone about reform in a manner calculated to infuriate not only the unions, but the broader public which was at least halfpersuaded of the need for reform. The Government's first mistake, for fear that South Korea's turbulent Opposition would succeed in blocking the new legislation, was to pull the decidedly undemocratic trick of rushing it through a vote before dawn on December 26, while opposition politicians were still asleep. Its second was to divide the reforms into two stages, giving immediate effect to laws allowing employers to sack workers and to bring in temporary staff to break strikes, but postponing most of the measures to liberalise union laws until 2002.

South Korea is no stranger to mass strikes: 400,000 took to the streets in 1989 and, so far, the protests have been much less violent than they were then. The Government is refusing to budge, gambling that a mixture of patriotism and anxiety about the faltering economy will produce a drift back to work. Since the law is flawed and its semiclandestine passage has caused outrage, it would be better advised to offer a compromise. The huge task of overhauling South Korea's superannuated economic model will be harder still if its mishandling of labour reforms embitters the whole society.

#### THE GRAPE THAT HEALS

Wine is a panacea for life as well as its raisin d'être

Scientists at the University of Illinois have discovered that grapes may cure cancer. After provisional researches on mice and cell structures, they have identified a cancerfighting agent which they have named, without much poetic or therapeutic feeling, resycratrol.

This medicinal substance was first discovered in a rare Peruvian legume called Cassia quincagulata. But it also occurs in grapes, particularly in red grapes, and grape products, including wine. This is a bonus for those who analyse, collect and market, resveratrol. And it is encouraging for drinkers of red grape products that were . invented for the British market such as claret, port and madeira. It is less encouraging for those who prefer white wine such as chardonnay, because they suppose it to be fashionable or less fattening. It also comes as a relief for haters of peanuts (the other host of resveratrol) or of broccoli (another promising "chemopreventive" of cancer).

For many years folk wisdom has declared that grapes are the appropriate present to take to the sick, even if the giver, having run out of cheerful conversation, then eats them himself. But for an even longer time poets and sages have praised the pleasures and

benefits of wine. So sang Omar Khhayam. But the founders of Europe believed that wine was a mark of civilisation itself, as well as a source of poetic inspiration and political wisdom. They summoned up powerful gods to represent the grape and its products. declaring their mission to spread the pleasures of civilisation to the barbarians. These pleasures were urban life, constitutional government, pax Romana - and viticulture. Wine was the crown of their elite social occasions, the dinner and drinking party. Scholars trace the spread of Greek colonisation and the Roman Empire by the mountains of amphorae and the shards of other wine-vessels they left behind.

Their poets, from Homer and Horace to Ausonius, their tragedians and comedians and their vase-painters celebrated the grape as beneficial. The Psalmist and many subsequent writers agree that wine makes glad the heart of gods and men. And the more enlightened medical writers still confirm their view. The American scientists are the first to suggest that wine may cure cancer. May they prove right. But even while their research remains a hypothesis, the claim that wine is a comfort for the long disease of life is as old as civilisation.

From the Director of the

Sir, Your leader on criminal justice policy ("American zero", January S) commends the mandatory sentencing practices introduced in California. We nave recently made these the subject

We certainly found that California unlike almost every other state —
 has embraced "three strikes and you're out" with gusto. It is also true that crime rates have fallen. But the decline in crimes actually began two years before "three strikes" was en-

in prison running costs alone.

Government's Crime (Sentences) Bill proposed for domestic burglars and Class A drug dealers on their third conviction, and repeat sexual or violent offenders, are more modest than those implemented in California. But there are clear warnings of the likely consequences (not least in terms of public spending on building and maintaining new jails) from Califor-

STEPHEN SHAW. Director, Prison Reform Trust. The Old Trading House, 15 Northburgh Street, EC1. January 8.

From the Minister of State, Home Office

suggest that there are lessons we can learn from successful approaches to tackling crime which have been

It is important to ensure both that criminals are caught and that they are properly dealt with when they are caught. We seek to build on best practice from the West and East Coasts of the US, and indeed elsewhere, to achieve these objectives, as they frequently learn from our experience. You were wrong to suggest that the

The proposals in the Crime (Sen-Bili build lessons from California but are specifically targeted on serious and persistent offenders from whom the public needs greater protection. I have also been encouraging the police to use some of the tactics which build on experience in New York.

Britain's voters will not therefore, as you say, have to choose between these two approaches. We are pursuing the best of both.

Yours faithfully, DAVID MACLEAN. The Home Office.

Lovers accuses the managing director of Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television, Mr Bruce Gyngell, of censorship for his stand against television's obsession with sex and the sexual parts of the anatomy (report and leading article, January 4; letter, January 10]

Broadcasters have a legal obliga-tion to ensure their programmes do not contain anything "which offends against good taste and decency". It is lity than many other broadcasters. requires all broadcasters to do, and he should be congratulated.

Yours faithfully, L. TAYLOR,

bury does not enjoy such power.

the on/off button.

Sincerely, TONY ROBINSON. 6 Clos du Bergoje. Auderghem, 1160 Brussels. January 4.

Weekend Money letters, page 41

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

#### Counting the cost of 'American zero'

Prison Reform Trust

of detailed research.

acted and mirrors a national trend.

Whatever their effect on crime, mandatory penalties have had a very definite impact on the courts and the prisons. The number of guilty pleas has declined, leading to courtroom congestion. And the number of prisoners held on remand has mushroomed. One authoritative estimate is that "three strikes" will cost Califor-nian taxpayers \$5.5 billion each year

The mandatory penalties in the nian experience.

Yours faithfully

Sir, Your leading article was right to deployed in the United States.

Government's proposals for mandatory minimum sentences are modelled on the approach adopted by Governor Wilson in California. And wrong as well to suggest that the Government is ignoring the lessons of the successes of policing in New York.

Queen Anne's Gate, SWI.

#### 'Hollywood Lovers'

From Mr L. Taylor

Sir, The managing director of the company which made Hollywood

unfortunate that Parliament appears to leave it up to the broadcasters themselves to decide what is or is not indecent or distasteful; but Mr Gyngell seems to be showing more responsibi-He is only doing what Parliament

12 Bransby Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire. January 5.

From Mr Tony Robinson

Sir, What has the country come to when a minister of the Crown, the Heritage Secretary, appears to en-dorse the right of a television executive to make moral choices for the rest of us? Even the Archbishop of Canter-

Television executives should show a proper level of humility and stick to manifesto specific proposals to change the tax and benefits system in favour of families. We cannot continue to put making commercial judgments. They can safely leave the rest of us to the family on an ideological pedestal exercise moral judgments by use of with our words and then undermine it with our taxes. If politicians really do not want the

> tion's children then they must surely change the tax regime on marriage and families that drives both parents out of the home, often leaving the children inadequately cared for.

Yours faithfully †JAMES HULLEN:, Hullen House, Woodfield Lane, Hessle, North Humberside. January 6.

#### Harmonious future beckons for books and the Internet

From the Minister for Science and Technology

the Internet.

Sir, Simon Jenkins's praise for the book and the written word ("No plug, no wires, no rivals", January 4) could have been credible without the need to attack electronic communications. They are complementary. Those who enjoy information on paper should rejoice in the ability to access vast libraries of ideas at any time through

Apart from contributing to im-provement in the quality of life, an understanding of how to make full use of electronic superhighways at school, at home, in voluntary groups, in our public services and at work is critical for our ability to compete in the global economy. This is why the Government has launched the Information Society Initiative, with separate but co-ordinated activities involving all the relevant departments.

As part of this, the information technology campaign ("IT for All"), an-nounced on December 3, will work with private companies and voluntary groups from diverse sectors to give more people hands-on experience of modern information and communica-tions technologies. Nearly 30 companies are already signed up, with many more expressing interest in being part of what must be the world's first such awareness campaign.

Government does have a positive role, but "IT for All" is private-sector led. Simon Jenkins's concern about Treasury subsidy is misplaced, though we have announced the creation, as soon as current Millennium Commission commitments allow, of a new information and communication technology fund of up to £300 million a year from lottery proceeds. This will certainly assist in broadening access to the Information Society.

Yours faithfully, IAN TAYLOR Department of Trade and Industry. Victoria Street, SWI.

Sir. Professor Robert Browning (let-

ter, January 6) admits failure to

understand an important point suc-

cinctly made in your leading article,

No Elgin, no marbles", of December

21 (see also letters, December 28). May

I suggest the reason is his not distinguishing between the inter-

mittent European regard for the

Parthenon sculptures prior to Elgin,

and the storm of interest aroused by

Parthenon broke with the antiquarian

tradition of visual record-making that

Browning traces back to Cyrlac of

Ancona. From then on the sculptures

would be viewed not only as temple

At a time when understanding of

Greek classical style was undergoing

radical revision, the Elgin Marbles

were placed at the centre of an artistic

'Times' and the Nazis

Sir, German fury at the reporting by

The Times of the bornbing of Guer-nica (Mr Hutchinson's letter, January

9; see also letters, December 24 and 31)

evoked a letter from the paper's

Geneva correspondent, H. G. Dan-

els, to the Editor, Geoffrey Dawson.

wrote from Berlin on May 16, 1937,

have been very savage about The

"The latest discovery is that if you

spell it backwards it spells SEMIT.

which leads them to deduce that we

are a Jewish-Marxist organisation

and that nothing else was to be

Nazi propagandists revived the "SEMIT" theme in 1942 when they

produced a jigsaw linking The Times

Times, in fact worse than at any

period I remember.

expected of us!"

Yours faithfully.

Surbiton, Surrey.

with Jewish interests.

NICHOLAS R. MAYS

From the Bishop of Hull

Sir, Your excellent leading article on politics and the family (January 4)

points out that the tax regime con-

tinues to discriminate against families

and that "a tax system which supports

the family provides the best guarantee

The question in the minds of every voter persuaded by your argument is

which political parties are going to

take courage and include in their

State to become a nanny to the na-

of a more stable society for all".

(Deputy Archivist, The Times), 16 Chesterfield Court,

"The German papers," Daniels

From Mr Nicholas R. Mays

omament but also as art objects.

their eventual arrival in London.

Removal of the scu

From Dr lan Jenkins

From Captain T. M. Quarendon,

Sir, The politicians' current obsession with providing costly computer equipment for even the youngest schoolchildren is particularly to be deplored, when the money could be so much better spent on other aspects of

Simon Jenkins spoils the case a little by his sentimental attachment to the book. As a means of presenting simple text to the reader, currently the book clearly beats the computer screen; on the other hand, the computer system is the clear winner in terms of storing text and moving it easily from place to

Sooner or later a portable computer screen, as convenient as a book, will appear, to be pre-loaded with text from a fixed installation as required, or fed online; where will the book stand then as a practical tool?

The words of the Bible were originally recorded on handwritten scrolls, later on the printed page, and are now available on CD-Rom. Their value remains unchanged, and the medium is judged by how well it brings the message to the reader, not by the technique used.

Yours faithfully (via word processor and fax), TREVOR QUARENDON, Freeland Cottage, Meonstoke, Southampton. January 6.

From Mr Richard Jones

Sir, Having been in the computer industry for 29 years, I whole-heartedly support Simon Jenkins's contention that the humble book stands no chance of being replaced by a world of whizzing screens full of textual information.

As publishers of The Good Software Guide, which is used exclusively by computer professionals, our experience is that new subscriptions for the disk version (which is read on

acquisition of the Marbles for the

nation served as a catalyst for that

debate. The committee's report is one

of the most remarkable and important

art-historical documents of the age, confirming the role the Marbles

would henceforth enjoy as paradigms

of complementary Neo-classical and

The modern European identity of

the sculptures was forged in the

Enlightenment culture of Elgin's day,

and cannot be understood without

Sir, Many yachts have been capsized

by heavy seas and still sailed on

("Warning signals that flash danger round the globe", Sport, January 10). I

have always understood that monohulis are rated safer than

multihulls because most of them have

carried heavy iron keels which have

applied a righting motion so that the

yachts do not remain inverted.

It appears from aerial photographs

that M Dubois' yacht had a very lightweight and narrow keel with a

bulb at the extremity. Mr Bullimore's

yacht showed the vestigial remains of

a similarly narrow keel which had

It would seem that designers of

keels have been concentrating more

on speed than safety. If this is so, it

would surely be better for race

organisers to insist on safer designs

rather than restrict the line of the

Highleigh, Chichester, West Sussex.

Sir, On New Year's Eve just before

midnight, at the party which I attended, it didn't seem enough to sing

Auld Lang Syne in the house, so we

spontaneously rushed out and danced

doing the same in west London. But, on the big night. December 31, 1999,

the instinct to get out will be much stronger: it would be fun to go to the

Meridian line and dance with every-

one on the line itself. Presumably, for

a brief moment, we could have one

half of our body in the second

millennium and the other half in the

Could this linear party be extended

to France? Could French people also

be partying all along the line? Also in

And, instead of bonfires, could laser

beams be organised, to light up the

length of the line?

Yours faithfully.

January 7.

JEREMY BAKER.

6 Crescent Mansions.

122 Elgin Crescent, WII.

Frankly, not a lot of people were

mostly been broken off.

course to different latitudes.

From Mr Jeremy Baker

Yours sincerely,

R. A. C. HILL

The Saplings.

in the street.

The family and politics A chorus line?

Romantic artistic values.

acknowledging this fact.

The British Museum,

Roman Antiquities.

Bloomsbury, WCI.

Yacht rescues

From Mr R. A. C. Hill

Department of Greek and

Yours faithfully.

IAN JENKINS,

Elgin Marbles, from ornament to art

the screen) are declining while subscriptions to the printed, book version are increasing rapidly.
Schools do need up-to-date computers and software. Every child should have the opportunity of learning the keyboard, word-processing, spread-sheets and databases; possibly also

messages via the telephone system, although that can be simulated internally without a phone connection. One course for one year should be more than adequate. The rest is

the capability to send and retrieve

Yours faithfully, RICHARD JONES,

Editor, The Good Software Guide. April Cottage, 43 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

From Mr Alistair Budd

Sir, Simon Jenkins's eloquent tribute to the enduring qualities of the book is also relevant to the debate concerning the Internet and the future of news

Reading the website of a daily newspaper is similar to watching the television adaptation of a favourite novel. It may complement and promote the original text, but it will never, in my view, replace it. Newspapers, like books, are an indispensable part of civilised society.

Yours faithfully, ALISTAIR BUDD, 20 Rue du Nord, CH-1180 Rolle, Vaud, Switzerland. January 7.

From Mr Don Nathan

Sir. Did I alone savor the irony of reading Simon Jenkins's dismissal of the Internet while on the Internet?

DON NATHAN, 275 Greenwich Stree New York City, NY 10007, USA. January 4.

#### Imperilled archives

and philosophical debate. The inquiry of the Parliamentary Select Com-mittee deliberating in 1815 on the

From the Secretary of the National Council on Archives

Sir, Sir Simon Towneley (letter, December 31) rightly expresses concern about the impact of local government reorganisation on the fragile network of county archive services in England. The Government's refusal to build any safeguards for the survival of these key storehouses of our local and national history into the reorganisation legislation for England, when some safeguards were provided in the equivalent measures

inexplicable. Further reorganisations will come into effect in April 1997 and April 1998, involving many more councils. It is already apparent that even where joint arrangements can be agreed, these are likely to be very short-term (three or five years at most), adding considerable uncertainty to the future

security of these services.

The situation would be improved significantly if the next Government were to make archives services a statutory function of local authorities. Many local authorities have provided excellent archives services for decades; they are now seriously under threat as a result of government

neglect and underfunding. Yours sincerely, NICHOLAS KINGSLEY, Secretary, The National Council on Archives, 9 Windsor Street, Pittville, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

#### Monarchy debate

January 2.

From Mr Mark Damazer Sir, The Carlton Television programme on the monarchy (letters, January 9 and 10) should not be regarded as the first major television

debate on the subject.

BBCl transmitted a one-hour edition of You Decide with Paxman in August last year. Two million people watched. There was a phone in poll leading up to the programme to decide which proposition, pro-monarchy or republican, should be subject to close scrutiny, and a brief phone-in vote at the end to glean a response from the audience.

We do not pretend that our polls spoke for the nation, but the second of our two votes interestingly indicated support for continuing with a monarchical system of government at about the same level as Tuesday night's poll.

Yours faithfully, MARK DAMAZER (Head of Weekly Programmes, BBC News) British Broadcasting Corporation, Television Centre, Wood Lane, W12.

#### A Shropshire double

From Miss Christine Long

Sir. There is a pleasing symmetry, and surely a rare coincidence, in learning from the two main reports on your front page today that Oswestry in Shropshire is both the birthplace of Richard Branson's balloon, which subsequently came down, and home to BT's centre for last night's phone-in polls, recording that the popularity of the monarchy has gone up.

Yours faithfully, C. M. LONG. 29 Heath View, N2. January 8.



#### **COURT** CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE** January 10: The Princess Royal today visited Heimtextil, Messe Frankfurt GmbH, Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage, Frankfurt am Main,

#### Vice-Admiral Sir **Hugh Thompson**

A Memorial Service to commemorate the life and work of Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh Thompson. KBE, FEng. will be held at noon on Friday, January 31, in Bath Abbey.

#### Appointment

Mr Michael Cook to be High Commissioner to Uganda in succession to Mr Edward Clay who will be moving to a new appointment.

#### Service dinners

RNR Public Affairs Branch Rear-Admiral Jeremy Blackham Admiral President, Royal Naval College Greenwich, was the principal guest at the annual Royal Naval Reserve Public Affairs branch dinner held last night at the college. Commodore Barry Leighton. Director of Public Relations Royal Navy, was the host. The Commodore and the Director of the Royal Naval Reserves and the Press Secretary and Chief of Information to the Ministry of Defence were among the guests.

G Battery HAC General Sir Martin Farndale was the principal guest at a dinner given by veteran members of G Locating Banery HAC last night at Armoury House to mark the 50th anniversary of the battery foundation. Colonel Graeme Gilchrist presided, Major Sir Thomas Skyrme, the first battery com-

mander, was present.

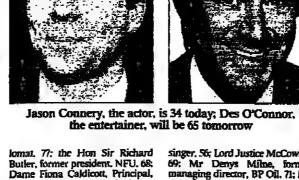
Anniversaries this weekend are on the facing page

#### Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Mr Graham Allen, MP, 44: the Right Rev J.A. Baker. former Bishop of Salisbury, 69: Mr J. Rashleigh Belcher, thoracic surgeon. 80: Sir Alan Bowness (life peer), 69: Sir Robin Carford, civil servant, 74; Mr Henry Cecil, racehorse trainer, and Mr David Cecil, racehorse breeder, 54: Mr Neville Duke, former test pilot, 75; Mr A.A. Gray, former chairman, Wellcome Foundation. 85; Mr Brian Moore, rugby player, 35; Sir Alastair Morton, former chair-man. Eurotunnel. 59: Lord Newton. 47: Sir Anthony Nutting. former MP, 77; Mr Jim Perris, Governor, Wormwood Scrubs, 55; Mr Bryan Robson, footballer-manager. 40; Air Chief Marshal Sir John Rogers. 69; Mr Arthur Scargill, trade unionist. 59; Mr John Sessions, actor and com-edian, 44: Air Commodore Joy Tamblin, former director, WRAF, 71: Mr R.C. Tress, former Master, Birkbeck College, 82. TOMORROW: Miss Kirstie Alley.
actress. 42: Mr Anthony Andrews.
actor. 49: Mr Michael Aspel,
broadcaster. 64: Sir Charles Ball,
company director, 73: Lord Board-

man, 78; Mr P.W. Botha, former President of South Africa, 81; Sir

lames Bottomley, former dip-





singer, 56; Lord Justice McCowan, 69: Mr Denys Milne, former managing director, BP Oil, 71; Mr James Mortimer, former general secretary, Labour Party, 76; the Very Rev Dr John Moses, Dean of St Paul's, 59; Sir John Rennie, former Governor-General, Mauritius, 80; Sir Terence Streeton, diplomat, 67; Lord Justice Swinton

#### Marriage

Mr J.E. Hodson and Miss T.M. Stefanello The marriage took place on Saturday, January 4, at St Mary's Church, Tysoe, of Mr James Edmund Hodson, to Miss Tatiane Melchior Stefanello.

#### School news

MIII HIII School Foundation Mill Hill School Foundation
Term started on January 7, Mrs L.
Duncan joins Belmont, Mill Hill
Junior School, as Head of the Upper
School. The Senior Mondon is Matthew Frise. The Prestige Lecture will
be given on Mondoy. February 10, by
Baroness Cox. Term ends on March
26, A reunion of all pupils at Mill Hill
School from 1970-80 will be held on
Old Millhillians Day, Sunday, June
12, Further denils can be obsulted
from the Headmaster's Secretary.

**Bowyers' Company** The Lord Mayor yesternay attended a service of thanksgiving to mark the resturation of the Church of St Botolph-without-Bishopsgate. During the service the Bishop of London dedicated a new stained glass window presented by the Bowyers' Company. Prebendary Alan Tanner officiated. The Master and Clerk of the Bowyers' Company were present. the Bowyers' Company were presen

in E flat (Lefebure-Wely); 6,30 HC; Rev & Okcilo.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Ray N Roberts; 6.30 E: Great Lord of Gods (Gibborn), Rev L Matahala.

(Gibborn), Rev L Matabula.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC: 945 Parmy C: 11 S Euch, Missa brevis (Gabrielli, Tribus missaculis (Palestrina), Rev T Invonantir Jones.

ST MARGARET'S. Westminster, SW1: 11.00 Sung Buch, Darke in F, Jubliate in C (Britter), Bethlehem down (Warlock), Rev P Cowell.

ST MARTIN-(HVTHL-PIELDS, WCD: 6 HC: 9.45 Euch; 11.30 Visitor'S S, Rev A Horse; 2.45 Chinese S, Rev G Lev G JO E.

ST MARTIN-TRUTH CHURCH, Economics Wit: 9.30 Parish Euch; 11.15 Choral M, The Vicar: 6.30 E, Rev M Pullet.

ST MARTYS, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11

6-30 E. REV M. PHILET. ST MARY'S, BOUTHE Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM. FUET NAINS SET PEO NOIS (GUERTEND). CARON LOTO PIERRESTON; 6-E AB. ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primmer Rill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Darke In E. Great and marvellons are Thy works (Tornkins), Bishop of London: 6,

are Thy works (Tornkins), Bishop of London: 6.

E. MICCHARLIS, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Such, Comagnum mysterium (Himnia), When to the temple Mary went (Eccles), Canon G Reid.

ET PAULS, Wilson Piace, SWI: 8, 9 HC; 11 Buch, What cheer (Walton), New Year Carol (britten), are N Dewicet.

ET PETERS, Baton Square, SWI: 8, 15 HC; 10 Parally Euch; 11 S Buch, Missa brests (Walton), virga Jesse (Bruckmer), Ave Maria (Bruckner), Pr As Chidwick.

ET STEPRINS, Globosser Road, SW7: 9 LM; 11 HM, Pastonalmesse KVI-0 (Muzari), Then shall a star from Jacob come forth (Mendelssohn), Fr R F Bushau.

CHAFIL RUTAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA. HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Smillo), Te Deum (Gibbons), Almighty God, which by the leading of a star Child. Ed. Chart.

CHAFIL ROYAL of Aram.

CHAFIL ROYAL of Aram.

HAPTIL ROYAL St James Prince 6.30 HC. 1.15 MP, Gloria in excelsis (Wealker), Rev.D J

Ignal IAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Paleon, 8.30 11 M, Shuntord In C, The three kings ornelius) 3.30 E, 5ee, see the Word incurnate libbons.

ideons, ideons Chapel Of the Savoy, WC2: 11 L To Doom (Vaughau Williams), Here is the medoor (Howell), Canon M Bordesur: 12.30

#### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr M.P. Burdon and Miss H.F. Don

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Burdon, of Harworth, South Yorkshire, and Henrietta, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Don, of North Elmham, Norfolk. Mr J.S. Dockerill

Mr J.S. Dockering and Mrs G.M. Batty
The engagement is announced between Justin, only son of Mr Anthony I.P. Dockerill, of Henleyon-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Mrs Colin Lamden-Hills, of Hermitage, Berkshire, and Gina, youngest daughter of Mr Michael Batty, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Mrs Elizabeth Batty, of Honiton, Devon.

Mr C.J. Fins and Miss S.J. Greenwood and Miss S. Creenward
The engagement is announced
between Crispin, younger son of
the late Mr Michael Finn and of
Mrs Michael Finn, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Sarah, only daughter of the late Colonel and Birstwith, Yorkshire Mr D.B.M. Fox

The engagement is announced between Dominic, elder son of Mr and Mrs Barry Fox, of Jennings-bury. Hertford, and Silke, only daughter of Herr and Frau Wolfgang Schumann, of Löhne, Germany.

2nd Licutement A.J. Holland, RAMC and Miss S.N. Stanbrook

The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs W. Holland, of Vale, Guernsey, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Stanbrook, of Brussels, Belgium.

Mr N.H.L. Holmes and Mim K.M. Serriff The engagement is announced between Nicholas son of Mr Peter Holmes and the late Mrs Diana Holmes, of Shotesham, Norfolk, and Kate, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs. Mark Sherriff, of

Blairdrummond, Stirling. Mr A.I. Howard and Miss A.E.S. Godfrey The engagement is announced between Alec, son of Group Captain and Mrs Richard Howard, of Kimpson, Hampshire, and Anna, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs Guy Godfrey, of Pishill, Oxfordshire.

Godfrey, of Pishill, Oxfordshire.

Mr R.B. Hurford Clark

and Miss I.M. Gerada-Azzopardi

The engagement is amounced
between Rupert Benjamin, son of

Mr Timothy Hurford Clark of

Haywards Heath, West Susset,

and Mirs Pearl (Tiddley) Morrison,

of Tollard Royal, Witshire, and

Ida Marie (Dida), eldest daughter

of Mr and Mrs Eric Gerads

Azzopardi, of London SW15 and

Maira.

Azoperdi, of London SWI5 and Besil Hyman, or London Maira.

Captain A.M. Ozenne, ZRTR. And Dr K.A. Smith and Miss C.L. Davy
The engagement is announced between Strion, son of Mr John between Andrew. son of Mr and Woods, of Hurley. Berkshire and Mrs B.H. Ozenne, of Torteval, of the late Mrs Patricia Harris, Goernsey, and Catherine, daught and Kirty, youngest daughter of Dr ter of Wing Commender and Mrs Brid Mrs Roger Smith, of Old P.J. Davy, of Goudhurst, Kentiy W. Marston, Ocksell.

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SITUATIONS

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Mr D.P. Higgins and Miss S.M. Clow The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs Keith Higgins, of Oughtbridge, South Yorkshire, and Sandra, eldest daughter of Mrs.

and Mrs Robert Clow, of Northwood, Middlesex, and Mrs Monica Young, of Arundel, West Sussex. Mr J.M.A. Meeson and Miss N.J. Grabam

The engagement is announced between Jeremy Mark Anthony, son of Dr and Mrs Andrew Meeson, of Hampstead, London, and Nicola Jane, daughter of Mr Simon Graham, of Evercreech, Somerset, and Mrs Jean Graham, of Malborough, Devon.

Major N.J. Mercer and Miss D.E. Holliman

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr between Nicholas; elder sen of Mr and Mrs T. Mercer, of Low Bridge House, Markington, North York-shire, and Dawn (Aurora) elder daughter of the Ven J.J. Holliman, QHC, Archdeacon for the Army, and Mrs Holliman, of Tidworth, Willshire.

Mr H.F. Mykura and Miss J.P.W. Walker the engagement is announced between Hamish, youngest son of Mrs Alison Mykura and the late Dr Walter Mykura, of Edinburgh, and Janey, second daughter of Mrs Patricia Walter and the late Briga-

dier Harry Walker, of Forfar, Mr C.B.R. Perin and Miss A.C. Robinson

and Miss A.C. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Claude, younger son of Mr and Mrs Raymond Perin, of Waterloo, Brussels, Belgium, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr Ken Robinson, of Gilbury, Hampshire, and Mrs Christine Hills, of Lymington, Hampshire. Mr. D.D. Swift and Miss N.J. Dryden-Smith

The engagement is announced between Benjamin, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Swift, of Minchinhampton. Glovcester-shire, and Naomi, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Smith, of Norton, Kent. Mr A.F. Tinsley

Mr A.E. Tinstey and Miss M. Hogan The engagement is announced between Alan, son of the late Mr and Mrs Edward Tinstey, of Dublin, and Margaret, daughter of Mrs Josephine Hogan, of Clonskeagh, Dublin, and of the late Mr Patrick Hogan. Mr M.I. Warshaw and Miss P.L. Hyman

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Warshaw, of London, and Emma, daugetter of Wr and Mrs Basil Hyman, of London.

#### Church services tomorrow

First Sunday after Epiphany ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.15 8 Euch: 6.30 Choral E. p.30 Choral E. ARMAGH-CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 Choral M. Sing we merrily (Batten). The Dean: 3.15 Choral E. Walmisley in D minor. How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn). BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL 9 MP. 9.15 HC:
11 Choral Euch. Illuminare Jerusalem
(Scholleid). Star In the South (Sargent). Rev J
Prasadam: 4 Choral E. Responses (Rose). Lo!
Star-led chiefs (Crotch). BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL 8 HC: 9.15 Choral M: 10.10 Euch: 4 Choral F. m: 1930 Euch: 4 Choral E.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 H Euch; 11 H Euch.
Missa Asterna Christina (Palestrina). The
Dean: 3 Ordination, Mass in Fsharp minor for
double choir and two organs (Widor).
Archdeacon of Gower.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL College Green: 7-10 M: 8 HC: 10 Choral Euch: 3.30 Choral E. M: 8 HC: 10 Choral Euch: 3.30 Choral E.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL # HC: 9.80 M.

Rev S MacLachlan: 11 S Euch. Missa laudare
dominum de coells (Lassus). Ecce advenit
Byrd). Archdeacon of Canterbury: 3.15 E.
Ciucas in F sharp. Reges Tharsis (Byrd): 6.30
Compilne Rev P G C Brett.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10,30 S Euch
Cantable (Franck). Missa brevis (Palestrina),
Omnes de Saba venient (Handil). Canon R
Chapman; 3 E. Jesus service (Mathias). Lol
Star-led Chiefs (Crotch)

Chipman, Service Indiana, Chiefs (Crotch)
CHELMRFORD CATHEDRAL: 7 JO MF. # HC: 9 JO Euch: 11.15 5 Euch: 6 Choral E.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8 HC: 10
Choral Euch. Francis Jackson in E. When to the temple (Johannes Eccard). The Bishop: 11.30
Choral M. Responses (John Reading). To Daum (Gitbons). Lo! Star-led chiefs (Crotch). The Dean: 3.30 Choral E. Trebjes' Service (Weelkes).
Ascribe unto the Lord (Travers): 6.30 Es. Canon T Dennis. T Dennis.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M. Stanford in C. Verbum caro factum est iMalcolmi. Right Rev C Luxmoore. 11 S Euch. Darks in a minor. Child of heaven (Foster). Canon F Atkirson: 3.0 E. Darke in F. Lo! Starked chiefs (Croich).

red chiefs (Crocch).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OXFORD: 5

HC: 10 M. Sumsion in G. Canon Jeffery. 11.13

S Euch, Missa vertacorum (Lessus). Ubi carrina

Churufiè). Archdeacon of Oxford: 6

E. Walmisley in D. minor. The three kings

(Cornectival. (Cornellia).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C: 10.30

Euch, Missa rorate coell (Haydn), Spirit of the
Living God (Leddington Wright). Mrs M
Sedgwick: 5 E. Spirit of the Living God
(Leddington Wright), Noble in 8 minor. O lora
Lioser walk (Standard). EIOSET WEIK STEINERFIJ.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M. Canon M
Perry: 11.15 HC. Canon R Coppin: 3.30 E.
SLY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S. Such,
Lille organ mass (Mosari). The shepherds'
(arewell (Bariloz), Rev J. McFarlane: 6.30
Epiphany procession.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 Sung Euch, O come ye servants (Tye), Let all mortal flesh (Balistow). The Dean; 11.15 M. Omnes de Saba venient (Handh), Canon K Parry; 3 E, Harwood in A flat, Lo! Star-let chiefs (Torich): 6.30 ES, From the rising of the sun (Ouseley). Preb & Werin. GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch. GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Fuch. Missa brevis (gabrieli), Greu and marvellous (Tomkins), Canon Dr M Patmer, 11.13 M, Jubilate in C (Britteri), The three kings (Cornelius), Rev J Fielding, 63.0 E. Wood in E flat, When Jesus our Lord (Mendelssohn), Canon D Bryant.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch. Schubert in G. The three kings (Cornelius); 4 Choral E. Murrill in E. 1 saw a maiden leasague art Perman). Dr J G White.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch. Messe de minuli (Charpenier). Bruitate Justi (Vladana), O sacrum convivum (Croos). The Dean: 3.30 E. Responses (Neary), Sumsion in A. Hymn to the Virgin (Britter).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch. Missa brevis (Rely), Let ali monal flesh (Bairsiow), Rev S Foster; [1.15 M, Festival Te Deum (Britten), Sing joyfulty (Byrdi: 3.49 E. Stanford in G. O for 8 closer walk with god (Stanford). Mr J Walker. istaniond, Mr.) Walker.
LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP 8 HC: 10.30
Euch, Bishop of Warrington: 3 Choral E,
Canon M Boyling: 4 HC.
LIANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8, 9, 12.15
Euch: 11 Sung Euch, Mass for four voices
(Monteverd), Creed (Merbecket, The Pean;
3.30 Choral E, Responses (Smith), Sumston In
A, Bethlehem Down (Warlock); 6.30 E, Mr K
Hall.

A Bethlehem Down (Warlock): 6.30 E. Mr K Hall.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 4.49 MP: 7 HC: 10.30 S. Euch. Missa brevis in F (Mozart). O come ye servants (Tye). The Archdeacon: 6.30 Epiphany procession.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M: 8 HC: 9.30 S. Euch. Missa festiva (Peeters). Canon I Bennett. 6 Chorols E. Dyson in D. Tomorrow shall be my dancing day (Gardner).

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP: 8 HC: 9 Family C: 10.30 S. Euch. Jackson in G. O lirde one sweet (Bach). Rev Dr. G. Partison: 3.30 Epiphany procession: 6.30 EP. Canon G Tarris. PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 9.30 M. Moeran in E flat 10.30 Euch. Jackson in G. Che Dean: 3.30 E 6.00 Epiphany procession.

HIPON CATHEDRAL: 8.00 Euch: 9.30 Parish Euch. St Michael's service. John Benson, the Lydian Singers. Chester. Canon Ken Stott: 11.30 M; 12.30 Euch: 3.00 Holy Baptism: E. Towish Panor. Williams.

HOCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 M. Te deum: Wood in E. Personent hodie Holsti: 10.30 S Euch, Missa for three voices (Byrd). Ante Lucifertum genilus (Handl). Archdeacon of Tonbridge: 3.15 E. Wood in E. We three kings (Hookney).

MORRISL.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 5 HC: 10 Euch.
Darks in E. Tribus mireculis (Marenzio). The
Precenium: 11130 M., Responses (Baxten).
Jubilate in C (Briten). O nala lux de lumine

Tailist. The Treasurer: 3 E. Sumston in G. All they from Saba (Handi). SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8.00 HC (1662); 10 MP: 10.30 S Euch; Festal E, Canon Jane Statiate.

MP: [0.30 S EUCh: Festal E. Canon Jane Startian:
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 00 Euch, the Provosc [] Choral Euch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozari, The three kings [Cornelius], Here is the little door (Howeligs: 3 Choral E. Stanford in B flat, When Jesus our Lord (Mendelssohn), The Vice-Provoti:
SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M: 8 HC: 9.30 Parish C. The Chancellor: 1 Sung Euch. Darko in F. The three kings (Cornelius). The Precentor: 3, 15 E. St Paul's serv (Howells), See, see the Word is incurnate (Gibbons).
TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9 M: 10 S Euch, The Lamb (Taveneri, Truro Eucharist (Briggs), and didst thou travel light (Shephard), Pantasie in E. [ast (Sein-Saéra). The Chancellor: 6 E. The Treasurer,
WAREDIALD CATHEDRAL: B HC: 9.15 Parish Fantaisle in E flat (Seint-Safins). The Chancelor. 6 E the Treasurer.

WAREFIELD CATHEDRAL: B HC. 9.15 Parish C. The Provost. 11 Solemn Each. Carton lan Knoa. 4 Epiphany Procession.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: B HC. 9.45 Sung Euch. Darke in E. Ubl. cartas (Duruffe). The Chancelior: [1,30 M, Ireland in F. Ave verum corpus [Elgari: 3 E a Comment of Bishop Bekynton. Stanford in B flat. Eastern monarchs Isumsion). The Sub-Dean.

WESTMENSTER ARRESTS HC. 10 M. Stanford in B flat. A bitle child ther is yoom (Bennet). Canon D Gray: 1.15 Euch, Collegium regale (Howells). Herr. Cont. du bist unser Zuffucht (Mendassohn). Canon D Gray: 3.00 E. Dr A Cameron; 3-5 Organ recital Naoya Sano; ES. Syster H Markey.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M. Jubilate in C (Brimen). Rocking (Hill). Prefude sur l'introit de l'Epiphanje (Durufe). Canon Alan Wilkinson; È Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd.). O Sacrum convivium (Near). Clacona in C minor (Buxehude): 1.30 E. Chichester sevice (Walton). A hymn to the Virgin (Britten). THE MINISTER A 4-8 HC. 10 S Futh. Mass.

Service Issuido, A nyini to the Vigori Isruen, Wie Schön leuchter (Buxdehudd, The Canon Treasurer.

FORK MINSTER: 8, 8,45 HC: 10 S Euch. Mass in five parts (Byrd). The Preventor: 11.30 M. Collegium Regale (Howelds); 4 E. Canon Ronald Mercalie.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL Clwyd: 8 HC: 11 M. The Dean: 3 Ordination of Priests. Mass in F. major K. 192 (Mozari, Sister Lavinle Byrne. ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL Bury St Edmunds: 8 HC: 10 S Euch. The three kings Cornelius). New Year Cami (Bridger). Canon M. Mingirs; 3 JO Choral E. Make we merry Carion, Bachiehem Down (Warlock).

ST GILES CATHEDRAL Edinburgh: 8 HC: 10 HC. Missa vid Speciosam (Victoris): 11.30 MS. Gloria in excessis (Weekes): 6 St Glies at Six. Tomuin Consort: 8 Es, rev C Recopy.

ST MACHAINS CATHEDRAL ABERDEEN: 11 MS. When 10 the temple (Eccand). Rejoice in the Lord alway (Redford). Rev R Frazer: 6 ES, Rev R Frazer: 7 ES, Rev

ST PAUL'S CATHEDWAL, Limiton: ILHC, 1.45

M: 11 \$ Euch. Missa brevis (Chappie), Personent hodie (arr Holst, Chancelion Canon in Residence 3.15 E. E. W. Naylor in D. Seek him that maketh the seven sars (Gland, Wie schon leuchter der Morgenstern (Burchude), Rev Professor John Barton, Oxford University. ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1:9 C; 11 M, Rev Rico Tice: 6.30 E, Preb R Bewes REO I RE: 0.30 E. Pres & Sewes.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, WI: I I.00 Misso ad fugam (Palestrina). As with gladness (Stanford), Magi viderunt stellam (Vitoria).
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's service; [1 M. Rev Dr P Elyy; 12.15 HC; 6 E. Rev D Bean. CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Coveri Garden, WCL: 11.15 for J McMahnre 6.30 Rev 5 Hood. 6.30 Rev 5 Hood.
FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15,
6.15 LM; 11 HM,
HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton
Road, SW: 9 HC: 11 MS, Rev S Millar; 5 E, Rev
S Millar; 7.30 E, Rev S Millar,
THE ORATION, Grompoup, Road, SW1: 7, 6, 9,
10, 11 Mass, 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Ivena Gdas, W8: 11 MP. Archbishop Y Gizifan. WESLETS CHAPEL City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 M. Rev Dr L Griffiths. WESTER S CRIATEL (1) ROBE, BLEE 945 MC;
If M. Rev Dr I Criffiths.
WESTDHINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Mchodist).
SWI: 11, Rev Dr P Graves, 6.30 HC.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Latheran).
Gresham St. ECE: 11 Choral Buch. Rev P D
Schmlege; 7 Choral V, Mr B Fisher.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE SELAT SIMILATION.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE SELAT SIMILATION.
ST GRIDE 10: 10. Collegium regale (Howelis).
LO! Star-led chiefs (Crotch), Lord Coggam 6.30
Choral Buch. Mass for two choirs
(Rheinberger), The Rector.
ST BRIDES. Fleet Street, ECA: 11 Choral M &
Euch. Jubilate (Weelkes short service), Darke In
A minor, LO' Star-led chiefs (Crotch) Canno J
Quers 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Byrd), Say,
where is he born? (Mendelssohm), Canon J
Cates.

CAUSE

FI CLEMENT DAMES: 11 Chorsi M. To Deum
à Jubliate (Boyce in C), Now when Jesus was
born (Bach), Rev R Noble. MacLeod. ST ETHELDREDA'S, by Place 11 Sung Mass. Masse des orphicolisme (Goundo), Jubliar Messe des orphéunimes (Tourno), Jubliare Deo (Schutz). 57 Janvier : Les Cardens, W2: 8 Epch: 10.30 S Euch, Missa. O magnam mysterium Vittoria), Super flumine Friedrich, Rey D Lawson: 6 Choral E, Blow in F, Tribus miraculis (Marentzio). STJAMES'S. PICCADILLY: 8.30 HC: 11 5 Euch, Rev D Resver: 5.45 EP, ST JOHN'S, Stratford £15: 11 Family 8, Sortie

IC.
HE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC;
1.15 MP, Responses (Thalber-Ball), Te Deam
Oray), The Masset.
RIARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barnets, SW1:
1 M, The Lord helb manifested forth hig glory
(halber-Ball), Omnes de Saba (Handl), The
hapiain; 12 HC. Chapteut 12 NVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, 3510: 11 S Euch, wood in the Parygian mode, Quem pastores (Russer), Rev C Breich.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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God is rich in mercy, and because of his great love for us he brought us life with Christ when we were deed because of our sine; it is by grace you are saved. Ephe-sians 2: 4,5

BMDS: 0171 680 6880

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

BIRTHS

ACLAND - On 1974 December 1996, to Pless and Lucinda (née Raiman), a daughter, Alice Beatrice, a sister for ALEXANORE - On January 5th at The Portland Hospital to Noga and Jean-Luc - The Chokys a real chimsette daughter Jade - Pape and ima love her. CAMPBELL - On January 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Michelle and Ted, a beautiful daughter, Cheyne

paquelyn, CARH - On 25th December 1996, to Amber (née Taylor) and David, a beautiful daughter, Sophia Grace Alison.

MAMILTON - On 19th December at Westmorland General Hospital, to Mary and Graham, a beautiful daughter, Claire, a sister for Rachael. MCKMAN CASTY - On January 2nd 1997, to Katie and Julian, a son, Dominic Julian Anthony, a brother for Edward and Thomas.

HOSES - On 16th December 1996, to Tina and Mike, Caughter, Polly Victoria. MEMP - On Monday 6th January, to Sarah-Jane (née Ward) and Mervyn, at the Edith Cavell Medical Institute, Brussels, a son, Jonathan Michael.

OVARDICK-FRURE - On December 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Instead and Bernhard, a beautiful daughter, Amelia Cristina Francesci.

SHEPHERD - On December 27th, to Angela (ase White) and James, a son, Cuthbert James, a brother for Luke. SORAB - On January 3rd at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Enwa (ase Lynch) and Adam, a besettful daughter, Katherine Buth, a sister for Benjamin and Alexandra. STRICKLAND - On January 7th 1997, to Lindsey (née German) and Dominic, twins, a son, Tarquin Cedric and a daughter, Florence Dorothy, a brother and Sister for Hoctor and Frederick.

ASSERBEN - On 7th January 1997, sundemly in begins in having battled coarsecously against her illness for many years, Mary Ann aged 52 years, beloved wife of Elchard and dear mother of Emma and Mark. Her braveness, good humour and indomitable spirit were admired by all. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Thunday, 16th January at 9 am Family flowers only bot demetions, if desired, to Arthrida Care Clo AH. Chester, Funoval Directors. Romsey, Hampshire.

**DEATHS** 

January at home aged 94. Feneral 17th January at \$1 Marylebone Crematorium at 10.30 am. No flowers but donations if desired to RNLL and 2Care.

RRILL. Emby Enthleen (née Bond) on 8th January in Dunedin Hospital, Roading, greatly loved wife, mother and grandmother. Reading Crematorium, 3 pm Friday 17th January No Rovers but donations please to Cancer Research Campaign, 6-10 Cambridge Turace, London NWI 41L.

NW1 4]L.

BIDDLEPH - John Percival on 6th January, aged 92, hattoned of the time Murbal. Much loved father of Tom, Jenny, Susan. Peter and Robin, devoted grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at 2:30 pm on Friday 17th January at St. Mary's Church, Brent Eleigh, Suffolk All enquiries to W.A. Deacon Funeral Services,

CARR - On january 9th, peacefully, Margaret (née Scott), dear wife of John Comyns Cart, loved and loving mother of Sophy and Jonny and grantmother of Easte, Ben and Lottia, Funeral private, at her desire: Her memorial is in the hearts of all who loved her

all who loved her

Internal On January
7th 1997 peacefully at
home, Joan, beloved wire of
Richard, loving mother of
John, Juneloys, Inderich and
Gytha. Much loved
grandmother of James,
Margaret, Alison, Richard,
Clare, Lindsey, Paride, Nick,
William, Tom, Iea, Sunh and
Roger, Service at Garston
Crematorium, Watford, on
Monday January 20th at
Japa. Flowers to William
Beckett, 29 Junetion Ecod,
London N19 5QT by 12
noon.

moon.

CHARLESWORTH - Eathloen

Viviam (Kate) on 7th January
1997 aged 89 years, widow
of Francis George (Charles),
much loved mother of
Nicholas and Roger, Funeral
Borham Crumntorium, near
Canterbury, 9 am 17th
January, Family flowers only
please.

CAUSE - jennifer Mary on Sth January 1997 at York District Hospina, aged 68. Funeral Service at The Retreat, York, at 2 pm on Thursday, 16th January. Donations to the 2etreat, Tack 101 580.

Thet WII SHA.

CIEVELY William Prederick,
on 7th January 1997, aged
87. Ex RAF, schoolmaster,
artist and country man.
Much Joved hurband of
Dorsen Betty and Jather to
Roger, Jane, Philip, Peter and
Susan, Puneral at St Peter in
Chains, Poalshor, Willis.
1.45pm 17th January. COMPTHE CAME: Son Carr. CROSS - On January 9th Christine Stephanie, a much loved wife and mother,

Chichester died suddenly on January 9th. Funeral Tuesday 21st January 1.30pm at Chichester Dressussium. No flowers bet DUNCAM - On January 9th 1997 in Ipswich Hospital, Alexander Douglas aged 85 Tears, such loved husband of Jounna. Family (uneval.

Anthony David of Leicester, loving husband of Daphne, lather of flason, between and the rolling because the rolling state of the rollin

GOLDE - On December 28th
1996, Virginia Hafren (nee
Woodward), widow of
Michael, sister of Hermions
and Eachel, peacefully in
Worcestershire. Her courage
has been an inspiration to
all who knew her. Funeral
Service at St Peter's Church,
Upper Arley, Worcestershire,
on Monday 20th january
1997 at 2.30 pm. No flowers
please but donations if
desired to L-FRUPA. York
House, 199 Westminster
Bridge Road, London SE1
70T. Thanksgiving Service
at St Peter's Church, Upper
Arley, on Saturday 22nd
March 1997 at 2.30 pm.

GOOGER - With family and friends in the caring atmosphere of The Bast Cheshire Hospice on 2nd january 1997 Harold Kingsley aged 76 years, husband of Gianno Galizzi of Oceno (TV) Italy, son of the late Harold and Margery Goodger of Prestbury and braths of Leadind Funcil Service at Macclessield Crematorium on Wednesday

Gematorium on Wednesday January 15th at 1130 am. Flowers or if preferred donations to The East Cashire Horsey, Enquires to J.W. Brocklehurst & Sons Ltd., Prostbury (01625) 829232. BANKSWOOD - Harman, Man o Letters, Man of Life, died at home, suddealy but peacefully on 8th January 1997. Will be greatly missed by his devoted family and many friends. Funeral Service at St Peter and St Paul Church, Eye, Suffolk at noon on 20th January.

KEARNEY-RYAN - Grace on Detember 26th peacefully at The Pines, Hove Funeral daughter of the late Professor E.H. Comer.

ARCH - On laneary 10th at home lines aged 95, loving wife of the late Cecil F. Baker, devoted mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Eastbourne, on Monday January 20th at 12 noon. No flowers but donations if desired to the late Mayde Certaire and Continue. Funeral and the late filters and the late fil

MACRAE - Peacefully on January Sth 1997, Peggy aged 59 years, wife of the late Donald Fraser of Reigate, Delevod mother of Sarah, Dencan and Christina and grandmother and great-drandmother. Funeral and grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Peter & St Paul

Nutfield Thursday January 16th st 11 am. Family flowers only, but donations if desired for RNLB. c/o Stoneman Funeral Sorvice, Dona Court, Redbill, RHI

MARTIN - On January 8th Simon, very dearly loved son of Famela and the late Maurice, and much loved mother of Sanh Funcal at 8t Johns Chapel, Oxford Grematorium on Friday January 17th at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donardons if

MAYIEW - Christopher, Lord Maybew, on January 7th, late of Wimbledon. Funeral Service to be held at Christ Charch, Copse Hill, Wimbledon, on Thursday 16th January 3.30 pm. A Service of Thanksgiving is to be held later in the year. Enquiries to FREIK W. Paine, Raynes Park. Tel: (0181) 945-1974.

Wency (née Tathot Willeam)
oh January 2nd In St
George's Hospital, London,
aged 72. Darling wife of
Maurice, dearly loved
mother of Caroline and
grandmother. Much loved
and sedily missed by all her
family and friends. Service
for the family ar Califord
Crematorium on Tuesday
january 21st mt 1030 am
followed by a Mezzorial
Service in Oznatile Chuma
at 12 noon. Enquiries to
Robert Ayilnz Funeral Pobert Ayling Funeral Services, Guidiford, Surrey, (31483) 567333.

ORLOFF - Marjorie Dean (Maggie), widow of Albert Charles Crieff ex Iniza, died at Brendoncare Nursing Mome. Fronfield. Hungeriord, on Fricky 3rd january 1997 aged 35. She leaves a san Charles, Funeral will be at 5t Lewrence Charles. Hungerford, on Thursday 16th january 1997 at 1.30 pm, followed by creasation. All enquiries to Charles Leaves set strephall (01488) 682505. With loving memories and deep affection from her sister jogn and Charles, David and Mary.

RK - Lik (Ted), aged 87, on 10th January 1997, in Devoh, formerly of George Rouse, Sellindge, Pather of Martyn, Anthony and Richard and Genndisther to Desse, Johns, Linck, Carries, Farms and Harrier, Service at 18 Harry's Cheech, Sellindge, Ashford, Kent at 1.30 pm on 21st January followed by burisl at St Bartholomew's, Surswesh, Sussex at 3.15 pm. Riowesh (See 18 Linck), Sellindge, Ashford, Kent (Teh 01233 d30107).

ROBERTSON - Dr. Alan Robertson CRE peacefully on 9th January at King Edward VII Bospital, Midhurst, W. Sussez, Domby loved austrant of Them and Minners, w. Susters and Joving father of Full, Stuart and Alison, also devoted grandfather of Dominic, Hamnah, Endly and Charlie, Funeral Series on Tassday, 14th January at St. Margaret's Church, Fernhurst at 11.30am. Fesselly flowers only please. Donations If desired to Parkinsons Disease Society clo GM Loff & Partners, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Sezrey, GUZZ 1 JE.

Ethor persed on pencaluly on 9th January 1997. Cremetion on 14th January at 3.20 pm at Carlisie Crematorium. No flowers plesse, any doustions to Toe Calvert Trust, Little Cresthesite, ager Leswick, CAM 400.

RUSSELL - On January 6th 1997 at his home in Villanova, Pransylvania, USA, Freu Syrom aged 78 years. Heshend of the little loyer and father of Panela and Thnothy. Donations if desired to imperial Cancer Research Fund, Appeal Centre, Wallace House, Marwell Flace, String 255 1JU.

SIMM - Ann, peacefully at home in jumary 8th Will be corely missed by her heahand Frank, daughter jame and grandchildren Christopher. Marcus and Repert. Funeral Service to held at Chichester Crematorium on Monday jumury 20th at 4 pm. Pamily flowers only please, donations payable to Multiple Sciencels c/o Mr NC. Hoster, J. Edwards & Son (Funeral Directors), 13 St (Feorges Walk, Hambledon Food, Waternooville, Hants. PO? 7TU.

SPENCER - Iris (Oiga), retired matron of Northwood and Pinner Hospital, Middlesez, died peacefully on Christmas Eve aged 82. Funezal Friday January 17th 3.45 pm at Golden Green Creation in Forth Lander, andly flowers. Dournloss to Imperial Cancer Research Enquiries Co-op Funeral Service, tel: (0181) 444-2224.

PREMANCII - On Sth Jenuary, suddenly at home, Georgina Rosamond (Gine), much treasured mean and adored wife of Ronald Funeral Service at St James Church, Chipping Campden on Monday, 20th January at 3pm Flowers de W.J. Wright, Tunanti Disease, Well Lans, Stor-on-the-Wold, Gen.

REX - N.I.R. (Ted), and 87, on 10th January 1997, in Deven, formerly of George Server.

Le-Cdr. CM. Stocken, D.S.C.
Lift and wech leved mother to Nicole, Anthony and Robert, slipped away serency 4th january 1997. Enquiries to Lodge Brees, (01922) 785-02. (01922) 785402.

EIDMSHAM Shalls Mary slid peacefully at home on Intendey Jamusty 9th 1997 aged 87 years. Deeply missed by her sons Colin and Ivor, grandchildren late. Dominic, Charlotte and James and greatgrandchildren. Frivate cremeton. No Downs but

grandchildren. Private cremetion. No Bowers but countries II desired to Heart of Kent Hospice of Viners. 54 High Street, West: Malling, Kent ME19 64U. Memorial Service midday March 21st 1997 et Ash Parish Church, Kent. Colombial Gran.

Parish Church, Rent. Colondal drum.

VABOR - Joan, suddenly on 29th December in Palo Alto, California, where she was spending the Christmas holidays with her sons Philip and John, their wives and other relatives.

Cremation and memorial service was in California.

WESTSCHILDS OF ARMS, ARMS, ARMS, ERD, on Sth Encary, aged 93 years. Harband of Anne (née Busuttil) and formerly of Ena (née Dennis), father of Philippa, Georgine and Jesúcs. Crestignal de la company of the Commission of the Cartes of Anne. His funcial service as to be laid at 1.45 pm on Tuesday, January 21st at Loughborough Crematonium Chapel. Family flowers only please, donations would be appreciated for (and cheques payable to):
Derbyshire House, East Leake, co G. Gamble & Sons (Quorn) Itd., Funeral Directors, 101 Meeting Street, Quorn, Leicestambre, LE12 SAQ, telephone: (01507) \$15415.

WOOD - Norah Joan (née

(01507) 415415.

WOOD - Norah Joan (née Cowper) suddenly on january 8th ages 82, widow of Brigadier Robert Ramil Porceval Wood, mother of Vertna, Tim and Michael, Fubrai on 17th January at Zym, Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green, Family flowers only, donations to Royal Tank Regiment Benevolent Fund c/o I.

Benevolent Fund Worley, tel: (01442) MEMORIAL SERVICES Elizabeth Hill A Memorial Service will be held at the Humina Orthodax Cathodral in Ennismore Gardens,

Enightsbridge, on Sunda 20th January at 12:30 pm. ANNOUNCEMENTS A FOURTH WAY SCHOOL in the living tradition of Cardileff and Campundry new accupting students 0181 347 5363. IN MRMORIAM —

CHOLE - Peter, died Janua 11th, 1989, Lamember today by his widow Pao the citizens of Braccian and blackers. and his form and friends in Britain. TICKETS FOR SALE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS

ADON Lindsey, Congratalation on your 5 contury! Here's to the next 50, Love Ken & Pat. SERVICES UET die superis help you to know your Ascestors. Write Acideve steam gounded 1962 Northgate, Camerbury, GT 28476.

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0181 688 6323 or call Page 0500 520 001 A SERTHDATE Neverpaper, Orio A MEWSPAPER durad very day they were been £28+php. Sun-day daspasok, 0171, 726 2624

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DONOVAR, TERRICE DANIEL of 6 Chepsow Villes, London Wil 22B died on 22 November 1996 particulus to PERNUNCTORE SALSSING OF BOCKLERSBURY HOURS, 83 CARRON STREET, LORDON BORN 25 (Bed AAH/ILI) before 12 March 1997

decreased will be distributed by the paradeal representatives among the persons estilled thereto having repard only to the theirs and interests of which they have had notice. COMBURA DORN'S ANNUN of 165 Columna Road, London SES Gled on 12 lens 1996 particular of REPA REPRODUCE Solicious of REPA REPRODUCE SOLICIONS OF REPA REPRODUCE SOLICIONS OF REPA GROVE, FRUKERA, LONDON SELS 40% before 12 kmrch 1997.

TRUSTEE ACTS COSE, PERSONALL, sints, lime-stone is becommon finguistics is floor tipe, Cobbie setts, sints troughs, seasobay service. But it internst del. Holley -Hernall 913:00 860000 (Wine)

HARDING- Matthew Charles of Witten House, Defeathill Lass, Dirichles, Season Heb SER who the filed on Limit Comber 1995, Particular, to Condison, Solicions, Solicions, Twins Servey Louden Self-Constant Self-Const

1 12426

12.

EING, DENNES STUART of Fine B14, Pine Grange, Buck Road

LEGAL NOTICES

ANCHEST Personner 1847-1976 in parametric folian E1800 inc phy. Newstell year 1850 page 1 pages 02504 112544 pag 7 sep. NOTICE 38 HERBEY GUVEY that a partition was presented to he he herbey was presented to he he herbey herbey have been the 11th day of November, 1996 for the continuation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from \$1,000,0000 to \$150,000,000.

AND NOTICE 38 FUNTYING GIVEN that NOTICE 38 FUNTYING GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heated before The Registront that the said Petition is directed to be heated before The Registront that the said Petition is directed to be heated before The Registront that the said fertition is directed to the heated before The Registront House, and the continuation of the said Company destring to oppose the making of an Onder for the comment of the said refused to the comment of the OUTSWELDS Newly decim own looksain. To let pand NS, in pastly house, man tube, 50 Ope inc. Tall Mis Short Day 0171 7318328 See 0181 670048. MRMINDON Delightful before to bet in Juneary house with adje-cent nod memos. Own 74, fridge and frames. Shared bath-mon and kinders. All mod cons, Glose to public amenities. Suk professional non-emaker. 2240pcm. I month deposit and reformes essential. Call Olds. 7894784.

person or by the Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be A copy of the said Petition will be fundamed to any such person requiring the sums by the undaminantioned Solichton or, payment of the regulated charge DATED this 2nd day of January 1997. Thesison Supren 420 Ameritties Mosskow Brown, 620 Atorycliffe Ed. Shetfield, 59 SQS. Solikings for the above-named Company.

Company.

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#### **OBITUARIES**

#### HARMAN GRISEWOOD

Harmon Grisewood, CBE, a former Controller of the Third Programme and Chief Assistant to the Director-General of the BBC, 1955-64, died on January 8 aged 90. He was been on February 8, 1906.

arman Grisewood, a cousin of the probably better. known broadcaster, Freddie Grisewood of Any Questions? fame, began his own broadcasting career by reading ex-cerpts from Walter Scott for Children's Hour. He subsequently became the right-hand man to two successive, and

As much as anyone below the highest ranks of the BBC, he helped to shape the future of British broadcasting after the war. He was in at the birth of the Third Programme, was its second Controller and later, under the title of Director of the Spoken Word, occupied one of the most absurd-sounding if influential posts within the BBC. When television increased in importance he served as the main channel of communication between the politicians and the broadcasters and was at the centre of the battle between Eden and the BBC at the time of Suez.

Harman Joseph Gerard Grisewood was the son of Lieutenant-Colonel Harman Grisewood of the 4th Hussars " and owner of a 13th-century house in Oxfordshire. The family background, however, was less traditional than this might suggest. His mother was denean family, with roots in Naples, Sicily and Malta and, like her husband, was a devout Roman Catholic. The family chapel, where Grisewood acted as server throughout his boyhood, was the centre of the household, and he remained a deeply religious; man throughout his life.

He was educated at Appole forth and . won a history scholarship to Worcester won a misury scanned and was College, Oxford. At university he was, at best, a casual scholar. When asked about his academic record he would reply: "I was an OUDS man." He played the lead in productions of Henry IV and King Lear and his beautiful speaking voice was responsible for his introduction to broadcasting.

Invited, while in his first job working at Formum & Mason in Piccadilly, tovisit the BBC's old radio studios at. Savoy Hill, he was told that somebody was needed immediately for Children's Hour. He was given a copy of Ivanhoe, a red light wear on, he read for a while, a hand waved languidly and he stopped. He was handed three guineas in an envelope and, having been given hopes of further employment, resigned from Formum & Mason the next day. Apart from a short period belping his father in an unsuecessful housing project in Cyprus, and a temporary resignation in 1947, he was a BBC man for the next 35 years.



After Children's Hour he graduated to serious acting, appearing in the BBC Rep with players of the stature of John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson and Peggy Ashcroft. Then he became an announcer before promotion to programme

The BBC was more flexible in those days and when Pius XI died in 1939 Grisewood, as an Italian-speaking Catholic, was dispatched to Rome to cover the papal election. Cardinal Hinsley, an old friend, introduced Grisewood to the conclave as his "bedmaker" which gave him an advantage over his rivals. But when he emerged from the broadcasting cubicle marked "UK" a Vancan engineer informed him that in fact he had been connected to a circuit for Bulgaria. Nobody in Britain heard a word.

He spent the war at Bush House as assistant to Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick, the Controller of European Services, fighting the propaganda war against the enemy on the Continent and fighting the departmental war againt the Political Warfage Executive at Woburn Abbey. Pessimistic about his postwar prospects, and disappointed at not having been made head of European

secrecy and the BBC's was enlightenment. His opinion naturally found no favour at No 10. In his autobiography One Thing at a Time (1968) he even claimed to have been told by William Clark, Eden's press secretary, that the BBC's policy had led the Prime Minister to to ask the Lord Chancellor, Lord Kilmuir, to prepare a legal instrument to take it over. This dramatic tale was subsequently challenged - and, though Grisewood certainly told the story in good faith, it seems that Clark (who resigned from his post at No 10 the moment the Suez operation was halted) may have piled things on a bit - a habit to which he was not a total stranger. An equally contentious - though

that throughout the whole affair, from

July to November 1956, Eden's aim was

this time totally authenticated - episode occurred over whether Hugh Gaitskell, the Leader of the Opposition, could be allowed a reply to a ministerial broadcast delivered by Eden. The two major parties disagreed as to whether the Prime Minister's broadcast had been sufficiently controversial. To Labour the right of reply seemed simple justice. To the Government it appeared as a stab-in-the-back to British troops, by now landed in Port Said. With the Director-General Sir lan Jacob away in Australia, it fell largely to Grisewood to interpret the BBC's rules in favour of Gaitskell being granted the right of reply. But he did so in such a bureaucratic

manner - insisting that the proper procedures were followed leven though Gaitskell wanted to broadcast the very next night) - that he caused the Leader of the Opposition great anger. Paradexically, as things worked out, Gaitskell would probably have been better off had he been kept off the screen: though eloquent, his TV address proved to be a grave political mistake. All it achieved was to reunite the ranks of the Conservative Party. In a moment of astonishing naivety Gaitskell appealed to all the anti-Suez Tory dissidents to join the Labour Party in getting rid of the Prime Minister thus ensuring that no such thing could mmediately occur.

Having successfully seen through the not alogether easy transition between Sir Ian Jacob and Sir Hugh Greene, Grisewood retired from the BBC in 1964 (he had been appointed CBE in 1960). He then worked briefly on The Times, then under the editorship of his old BBC chief, Sir William

After leaving the BBC he served on various official bodies, including the Younger Committee on Privacy and the Lord Chancellor's Committee on Defamation. In retirement in Suffolk he wrote, in addition to his autobiography, two undistinguished novels.

He is survived by his wife, from whom he was separated, and by their

#### JOAN KNIGHT

Joan Knight, OBE. theatrical director and former artistic administrator of Perth Repertory Theatre, died on December 20 aged 72. She was born on September 27, 1924.

ONE of Scotland's most energetic theatrical directors, Joan Knight will always have her name linked with the Perth Repertory Theatre, which she ran with a sort of benign dictatorship from 1968 to 1992. It is probably true to say that Perth would not now have an acclaimed theatre if it had not been for her tireless commit-

Joan Mary Knight was born into an untheatrical family in Preston, Lancashire, and left school at the age of 15 to take on a rather dull job in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the war she worked in the Women's Land Army. She was introduced to theatre through the local amateur dramatic society, where she is best remembered for a remarkable production of Christopher Fry's The Lady's Not For Burning. The society at the time was more used to drawing-room comedies and the occasional Noël Coward.

She next attended the Bristol Old Vic School for an administrative course, after which she was engaged in stage management until given an opportunity to direct coincidentally at Perth - in

the early 1950s. She spent the next few years either directing in or helping to save a succession of theatres whose financial position was perilous. She worked in Whitby, Keswick and various Midlands towns until she became artistic director of the Castle Theatre, Farnham, for four years, ran the Ludlow Festival for three years and was director of productions at Pitlochry.

When she was given the job as artistic director of the Perth Rep in 1968 the theatre was in

crisis. Audiences were poor, the choice of plays unimaginative and the finances dire. Thanks to her, today the Perth Rep has been enlarged and refurbished, a rehearsal room built and a decent restaurant created.

But it was in her choice of plays, writers and directors that her eye was seen to best effect. She encouraged young directors to join her as an assistant in Scotland. These included Clive Perry (at Farnhamj, Mike Ockrent, Patrick Sandford (now at Southampton). Ken Alexander (the Byre Theatre St Andrew's) and Andrew McKinnon ther successor at Perth).

She was always keen to



work with young actors (she directed the young Michael Crawford at the Royal Court in 1963). She came to London for Equity meetings (she was a member of its council for many years) and directed several revivals of The Mousetrap for Sir Peter Saunders. She was offered positions with both the Royal Court and the National Theatre which she refused to take up - the latter much to Lord Olivier's consternation. "I have given my word to the directors in Perth and, besides, perhaps a career in London, with all those egos, might have turned me into someone not quite as nice to know," she commented.

Of her many productions in

Perth three stand out. In 1991 she produced, directed and oversaw Peace Child. It was her brainchild and an administrative challenge. One hundred childen from 12 countries invaded Perth and rehearsed for a formight and performed just nine times (all sold out immediately). The children (teenagers from Jordan and Israel stood next to each other on the stage) were lodged in local homes and the production was a triumph not only for Knight's theatrical flair but also for her ability to get things done with a minimum of fuss and through sheer force of personality. As a result of this venture Perth was voted

Top Twin Town of 1991. In 1985 she directed Rikki Fulton and Denise Coffey's A Wee Touch of Class (an adaptation of Molière's Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme) which with them in the lead roles broke box-office records in Perth before becoming a star attraction of the Edinburgh Festival. It is due to be revived at the Pitlochry Festival.

Her last production at Perth was Shadowlands, the tearjerker about C.S. Lewis, pased on his book Surprised by Joy. To grace her swansong to the theatre she had guided for so many years, she had assembled a distingusihed Scorttish cast.

After her retirement she continued to direct, not least a production of James Bridie's Mr Bolfry in Russia. Her final production — its last stages overseen by Clive Perry — was of that play (it opened when she was in hospital) at last year's Pitiochry Festival.

Knight loved people, especially children. Her infectious laugh could break the ice of the most tense moments at rehearsal and she had an enduring ability to entertain and enjoy her guests' company. She was appointed OBE in 1985 - a true Lilian Baylis of the North.

Joan Knight never married.

#### **BURTON LANE**

Burton Lane, Broadway and Hollywood composer, died on January 5 aged 84. He was born on February 2, . 1912.

BURTON LANE was one of the neglected songwriters of his generation. Friend to George Gershwin, discoverer of Judy Garland, he also wrote such haunting Broadway melodies as On a Clear Day You. Can See Forever and How Are Things in Glocca Morra?

Lyricists of the calibre of Yip Harburg, Alan Jay Lemer. Frank Loesser and Ira Gershwin opened up to work with him, and appreciated the consistency of his work. Theatre lights on Broadway were dimmed at the news of his death. But the sad truth was that for many years his contribution to popular musical theatre had been overlooked.

Burton Lane was born Burton Levy, the son of a New York real estate agent and a piano-playing mother. He left school at 15 to join composers in Tire Pan Alley. It was George Gershwin who nurtured his potential.

His family was spending a holiday in Atlantic City, and stayed in a modest boarding. house which boasted a piano. Lane was working out a showy version of his favourite Gershwin tune - Swonderful - when by coincidence he sang Zing Went the Strings of was overheard by Rose Gersh- My Heart over and over again

win, George and Ira's mother. Rose took him to meet George. and Lane stunned the composer with his new arrangement. After that, Gershwin benevolently sought out teachers for the boy. Lane's first tunes to be performed in public were in the 1930 revue Three's a

In 1933 Lane made the trip

to Hollywood. Again by ex-treme good fortune he found himself at the right dinner party two days after arriving. and the following morning was invited to David O. Selznick's office to try out a few songs. Joan Grawford, who was looking for a new ballad for Dancing Lady, was also called in and immediately loved Lane's Everything I Have Is Yours. This - Lane's first film song - was nominated for an Oscar that year. After this promising start, work for Paramount during the 1930s became an ordeal for Lane.

But there were lighter moments, one in 1934 when he discovered an 11-year-old named Frances Gumm singing with her sisters between pictures in an obscure downlown movie theatre. Baby Gumm (as Judy Garland was then professionally known) was belting numbers out, and Lane could not believe what he was hearing. The following day he arranged to have her auditioned at MGM, and she

statesman, Spain, 1495; Sir



Services, he left the corporation in 1947

but was shortly afterwards persuaded

to return as planner for the exciting

new Third Programme and as assistant to its first Controller, Sir George

Barnes. When Barnes was promoted,

Grisewood succeeded him. He fol-

lowed Barnes again in the splendidly

old-fashioned role of Director of the

Spoken Word. His responsibilities here

included news, religion, talks and

Then, in 1955, he was appointed chief

assistant to the Director-General, then

Sir Ian Jacob (though he continued

under Sir Hugh Greene), having to

bear the increasing pressures which

political parties were placing on the

BBC as the importance of broadcast-

ing, particularly television, became

Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden,

believed that the operation was a

national commitment and should not

be questioned. The broadcasters' view

was thar it was not a national war, as in

1914 or 1939, and that it was their duty

to report any opinions which were

important enough to affect the out-

come. Grisewood always maintained

The most difficult time was Suez. The

more and more appreciated.

for ten hours, while a stream of sturmed music executives were called in. Garland maintained that she owed Lane

"everything".

Lane shuttled to and from Broadway writing the music for Al Joison's last stage musical Hold on to Your Hats (1939) and for Garland in Babes on Broadway in 1941. I like New York in June, How about You?. with lyrics by Raiph Freed, was Garland's showstopper in that production and was later recorded by Frank Sinatra.

In 1947 Lane teamed up with the lyricist Yip Harburg for Finian's Rainbow, based

on an unlikely story about a leprechaun and a bigoted Southern senator, which ran on Broadway for 725 performances. How are Things in Glocca Morra? (a tune which, ironically. Harburg had to

persuade Lane was good enough to be included), became an instant radio favourite, recorded by Bing Crosby. Ol' Devil Moon, from the same show, achieved popularity more slowly, though it was quickly taken up by jazz musicians who had always liked Lane's slightly avant-garde style. Because Harburg was blacklisted, the film version, starring Petula Clark

and Fred Astaire, did not appear until 1968.

After that triumph, more films followed for Lane. Royal Wedding (1951), to his delight, gave him a chance to work with Alan Jay Lerner. They jointly received an Oscar for their Too Late Now in that Despite Lerner's alarming

habit of disappearing for days in the middle of work, Lane teamed up with him again in 1965 for On a Clear Day You Can See Forever, a musical about a young woman with extrasensory perception. The musical was not such a success as Finian's Rainbow but the title song was much admired.

That was Lane's last big hit, though he continued to hope for a Broadway comeback. Some were included on an album be recorded with Michael Feinstein (Ira Gershwin's old musical secretary), which helped to rekindle interest in his music in 1990. Modesty was probably his greatest professional handicap. Lane never considered himself in the same league as Gershwin. Cole Porter or Irving Berlin.
There haven't been four bars of music created in the last 15 years that could compare to what George Gershwin threw away," he recently said.

He is survived by his second wife Lynn, a daughter from his first marriage, and three stepdaughters.

#### **CANON JOHN CORNWALL** in the local customs and sent Canon John Cornwall,

mission priest, died on December 31 aged 96. He was bern on April 24,

JOHN CORNWALL was one of the last old-style English missionaries, whose role in 20th-century Africa was to lay the religious and educational bases upon which Africans could then build and develon their own Christian churches and schools. He brought to his missionary work in Tanganyika (now Tanzania) a sense of duty and discipline which stemmed partly from a decade spent in the Royal Artillery in the 1920s. But his work as a priest was also characterised by an infectious sense of life as

an adventure. This was shown during his military career when in 1928 as a trainee surveyor - he agreed to form part of a small expedition sent out by the Royal Geographical Society to East Africa to chart and map the region of the Kalambo Falls.

John Whitmore Cornwall was born in a rambling vicarage in Thornbury near the banks of the Severn. His father Alan Whitmore Cornwall - sometime Archdeacon of Cheltenham - noted in his diary on the day of his birth "cuckoo" and, as an afterthought, "second son, fifth child, born".

He was rather a timid child, whose schooling at the parsons' sons' school of St John's. Leatherhead, was not a very happy experience. With the outbreak of the First World War he determined to follow his brother Alan and become a soldier. He trained at the Royal

Military Academy, Woolwich. gained a commission, and his first posting in 1919 was to the 2nd Brigade (Royal Field Artillery) in Ireland. Although he deliberately chose this as "good hunting country", his service there, during the civil war, had its dangers. At one point he formed part of a unit set up to try to ambush Michael Collins. In 1922 the 2nd Brigade's title was transferred to a brigade in India. in 1926 he joined the Survey

Company of the Royal Artillery on Salisbury Plain and it was with this experience under his helt that he was chosen in 1928 to join a Royal Geographical Society expedition to East Africa. Cornwall had already de-

cided to resign his commission in order to train for the priesthood, and he now resolved to follow his sister Frances, who had joined the Universities Mission to Central Africa (UMCA). He trained at Cuddesdon and, after a curacy in Streatham, he was sent by UMCA to Masasi, Tanganyika.

Cornwall immediately fell under the firm but gentle guidance of Vincent Lucas, first Bishop of Masasi. In contrast to missionaries of an earlier period, Lucas was highly sensitive to African local customs and he was a pioneer in Christianising the initiation rites of the local tribes in this part of Africa. Lucas instructed his new pupil

him out on a bicycle to inspect schools and take services around the vast diocese. He also accompanied him on many safaris to map the diocese (the previous German maps had proved inaccurate). Fluent in Swahili, Cornwall was to stay 21 years at Masasi, acting as priest-in-charge of parishes extending for fifty miles, administering the cathedral and serving at times as headmaster of St Joseph's College, Chidya.

He brought his missionary zeal back to England in 1955 when he married Benita West, who had served as a UMCA missionary in Masasi from 1950. Together at Minchin-hampton from 1959 to 1972, they built up a parish life which was acknowledged as a model of spirituality and enthusiasm throughout the Gloucester diocese. The rectory there was "open house" to all. In 1969 he was made an honorary canon of Gloucester.

Retiring in 1972, he re-mained a tireless assistant priest in Stroud until his 96th year. He was also a fine watercolour artist and his best works were landscapes painted during his time in Africa. He is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.



#### **Anniversaries**

TODAY. BIRTHS: Il Parmigianino, painter, Parma, Italy, 1503; Alexander Hamilton, American statesman, Nevis, West Indies, 1755; Sir Charles Hastings, physician, founder of the British Medical Association, Ludlow, 1794; Sir John Macdonald, Prime Minister of . Canada 1867-73 and 1878-91; Glasgow, 1815; William James; psychologist, New York, 1842; George Curzon, Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, Viceroy of India 1898-1905, Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire, 1859; Harry Gordon Selfridge, founder of the London store, Ripon, Wisconsin, 1864; Alan Stewart Paton, writer, Pietermaritz-

burg. 1903. DEATHS: Domenico Ghirlandajo, historian, London, 1494: Cardinal Potro Gonzalez de Mendoza, prelate and

Hans Sloane, physician and collector, London, 1753; Louis François Roubiliac, sculptor, London, 1762; Doznenico Cimarosa, composer, Venice, 1801; Friedrich von Schlegel. philosopher and historian, Dresden, 1829; Francis Scott Key, poet, Baltimore, 1843; Georges Eugene Haussmann, architect who replanned Paris. Paris, 1891; Thomas Hardy, novelist and poet, Dorchester. 1928: Caradoc Evans, writer, Aberystwyth, 1945; Hugh Gaitskell, leader of the Labour Party 1955-63, London, 1963; Shri Lai Bahadur Shastri. Prime Minister of India 1964-66, Tashkent, 1966; Alberto Giacometti, sculptor, Chur, Switzerland, 1966; Richmal Crompton, author, 1969; Padraie Colum, poet, Enfield,

Charing Cross station was opened, London, 1864. Insulin first used successfully in the treatment of diabetes,

King Zog of Albania was dethroned, 1946. The Open University awarded its first degrees, 1973.

TOMORROW BIRTHS: Jean Baptist van Helmont, chemist, Brussels 1580; John Winthrop, Puritan and 1st Governor of Massachusetts, Groton, Suffolk, 1588; Lazaro Spallanzani, chemist, Modena, Italy, 1729; Edmund Burke, statesman. Dublin, 1729: Johann Pestalozzi, educator, Zurich, 1746; John Singer Sargent, portrait paint-er, Florence, 1856; Sir Charles Oman, historian, Muzaffarpur, India, 1860, Jack London, novelist, San Francisco, 1876;

Ferenc Molnár, dramatist, Budapest, 1878; Curbastron Gregorio Ricci, mathematician, Italy, 1983; Hermann Goering, Nazi war criminal, Bavaria, 1893; Georges Carpentier, boxer, Calais,

DEATHS: Luca Giordano, painter, Naples, 1705; George Froster, explorer, Paris, 1794; Sir Isaac Pitman, inventor of a shorthand system, Bath, 1897; Dame Agatha Christie, crime novelist, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, 1976. The British-Zulu War began,

1879. The London Co-op opened the first supermarket in London at Manor Park, 1948. A Boeing 747 (jumbo) jet landed at Heathrow airport

after its maiden transatlantic

flight from New York, 1970.

#### JAMESON'S RIDE.

Wrong! Is it wrong? Well, may be: But I'm going, boys, all the same.
Do they think me a Burgher's baby,
To be scared by a scolding name? They may argue, and prate, and order.
Go, tell them to save their breath:
Then, over the Transvaal border. And gallop for life or death!

"Let lawyers and statesmen addle
Their pates over points of law:
If sound be our sword, and saddle, And gun-gear, who cares one straw?

When men of our own blood pray us

To ride to their kinsfolk's aid,

Not Heaven itself shall stay us From the rescue they call a raid.

There are girls in the gold-reef city,
There are mothers and children tool Inere are mothers and children note
And they cry, 'Hurry up! for pity!'
So what can a brave man do?
If even we win, they'll blame us:
If we fail, they will how! and hiss.
But there's many a man lives famous
For daring a wrong like this!

IV.
"So we forded and galloped forward,
As hard as our beasts could pelt,
First eastward: then trending norward,

#### ON THIS DAY

January 11, 1896

The Jameson Raid against the Boers was a humiliating fiasco. However, to mark it The Times paid £25 to the worst Poet Laureate for his worst poem; its jingoism appealed to the public and there were calls for reprints — even requests that it be set to music.

Right over the rolling veldt: Till we came on the Burghers lying In a hollow with hills behind. And their bullets came hissing, flying, Like hail on an Arctic wind!

"Right sweet is the marksman's rartle, And sweeter the cannon's roar, But his bitterly bad to battle. Beleaguered, and one to four. I can tell you, it wasn't a trille

To swarm over Krugersdorp glen. As they plied us with round and rifle. And ploughed us, again - and again,

Then we made for the gold-reef city. Retreating, but not in rout.
They had called to us 'Quick! for pity!'
And He said, 'They will sally out.
They will hear us and come. Who doubts it?'
But how if they don't, what then? Well, worry no more about it, But fight to the death, like men.

VII. Not a soul had or supped or slumbered Since the Borderland stream was cleft; But we fought, ever more outnumbered, Till we had not a cartridge left. We're not very soft or tender,

Or given to weep for woe, But it breaks one to have to render One's sword to the strongest foe. VIII.

"I suppose we were wrong, were madmen, Still I think at the Judgment Day, When God sifts the good from the had men, There'll be something more to say. We were wrong, but we aren't half sorry.

And, as one of the baffled band, I would rather have had that foray

Than the crushings of all the Rand."

ALFRED AUSTIN Swinford Old Manor, Jan 9.

#### THE TIMES TODAY

#### **NEWS**

#### £200 plan for pet passports

Pets could soon accompany their owners on holiday abroad under government proposals to relax the world's toughest quarantine rules with a £200 rabies check.

The new control would apply only to animals travelling from "isolated, rabies-free countries" and they would have to be fitted with a microchip proving that they had been vaccinated Page 1

#### Minister condemns 'begging Scots'

■ David Maclean, the Home Office Minister, caused a storm when he declared that most beggars were Scots and that they were on the streets through choice. Mr Maclean, the rightwing Scots-born MP for Penrith and the Border, said there was no justification for begging ..

#### Archbishop's praise

The Archbishop of York has praised Britain's achievements and urged the country to focus on its successes ..... ...Pages I, 2

#### Patient 'was chained' The Prison Service launched an

inquiry into why a man was chained to his bed by his leg and arms until three hours before he died in a hospice ...... Page 1

#### Opera economy

The Royal Opera House says it may be forced to scrap its reducedprice matinée performances for schools because it cannot afford .. Page 3

#### Shipwreck success

It was dawning on Tony Bullimore that getting shipwrecked was the most fortuitous mistake he had ever made....

#### Paedophile expelled

A paedophile was moved after demonstrators besleged the hostel

#### Arab threat Thousands of Islamic militants in

Turkish threat

the autonomous West Bank city of Nabius staged a raily and demanded another "big attack" where he was staying ...... Page 7 against Jewish targets ..... Page 20

Population slow-down World population growth is slow-

ing for the first time, excluding the

Black Death and the Great War

John Major, speaking in India.

gave his clearest indications yet

that he is aiming to call a general

election on May 1 ...... Pages 2, 15

Europe's future central bank laid

down a tough German-style ap-

proach to ensuring the purity of

the single currency..... Page 18

Turkey renewed its threat to

launch pre-emptive strikes against

Cyprus if it goes ahead with its

purchase of missiles...... Page 19

flu epidemic ....

Election hint

Tough bank

#### Top and bottom of picking the lottery

■ One of the great mysteries of modern life has been resolved by two academics: how people choose their lottery numbers. The dominant influence is the design of the lottery form. The most popular numbers are near the centre and those with least appeal are on the edges and bottom



#### OPINION

Ges and gaiters: Although politicians might be tempted to remind the Church that there should be a strict demarcation between God's dominion and Caesar's the border is porous ......Page 23 Asian battlefronts: The huge task of overhauling South Korea's superannuated economic model will be harder still if its mishandling of labour reforms embitters the

#### LETTERS

whole society...

.....Page 23

Justice; Internet; yacht rescues; monarchy ....... Page 23

#### COLUMNS

Simon Jankins: Bullimore and Branson have ventured and failed in style. They have performed the task the British expect of their 20th-century adventurers. They have taken on the world ... Page 22 Conor Cruise O'Brien: Modern Irish nationalists do not actually say that the Protestants of Northern Ireland are "false Irishmen". But that is the general idea ........ Page 22

#### OBITUARIES -

Harman Grisewood, Third Programme controller: Burton Lane, composer. Page 25

#### BUSINESS

Hellfax: 8.5 million members will receive shares worth an average £1,290 and up to £6.215 on floatation ... Page 27 British Gas said its three month results would be dominated by one-off costs totalling £841 million...... Page 27 Argoe: Shares fell after it warned the market about 1996 profits and said Christmas trading had not been as strong as expected .... Page 27

DM2.6635...

#### Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 30.4 to 4056.6. Sterling fell to 96.1 after falling from \$1.6935 to \$1.6810 and DM2.6688 to

tournament ....

Robson.

#### Microcar sale; written tests; ... Page 30 battery sports cars.

Tennis: Tim Henman defeat-

ed Goran (vanisevic to reach)

the final of the Sydney

Footbalk Newcastle United

are believed to have made a

new offer to the former Eng-

land, manager Bobby

Recing: Alderbrook, winner

of the Champion Hurdle in

1995, has been retired be-

cause of problems with his

.... Page 52

... Page 52

Page 47

Comedy queen: Meeting June Whitfield ...... Page 8 Hitter survivors: Boys who found a new life... Page 14 Food and drink....Page 39

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Anne Frank Why she will live for ever ..... Pages 1, 2



Property: Home protection from the cold... Page 7 Family life: To smack or

#### not to smack?..... Page 13 10 15

Robin: Chris O'Donnell Poetry: Tobias Hall read, watch and play

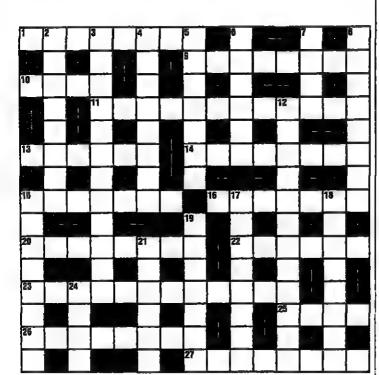


Books: The bestsellers for bookworms TV: Critical guide ..... 23-50 Food: Tried and tested 4-6 What's on:..

4

#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,374

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street. London El 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday



DOWN

2 Article supporting a number of nationalists about a hateful thing

3 Dishonestly take a position as head waiter (4,3.5).

fine for trespass (8).

ю send message (8).

mains, perhaps (8).

round at last (S).

pulled up short (6).

24 Underground TV (4).

Gang overwhelmed by savage

Become successful in satire (4-3).

6 Hoggish male going about ninety in CS vehicle (6).

7 Learner in class used to make

Type of ring suitable for all ages

18 Mule thrashed with it comes

19 Queen, we hope, will be good

21 Crude language from pickpocket

Solution to Puzzle No 20.373

enough for such tricks involving

- 1 Forbid member plucky player (8). 9 Such parents had no conception of the issue involved (8).
- 10 Mulled cordial (4). 11 Deal with cash, after split with former partner (4-8).
- 13 Write about a male and a female bird (6). 14 Dismiss a method to start making
- sperch (4.4). 15 Some importing that French type
- of flooring (7). 16 Flow of quiz restricted by huzzer
- two hands needed for it (7). 20 He was arrested as a juvenile
- 22 A fraction of some freight hauled
- 23 I'd need a stick. I feel, to sort out lower stream! (5-7). 25 Just open a pint (4).
- 26 The men in this study are unnaturally well-built (S). 27 Heavy ref stirred up perennial

complaint (3.5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,368

We regret that this year The Times will not run the annual Crossword Championship.

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#### **HOURS OF DARKNESS**

TODAY Sun raes Exian

Sun sets 4 15 pm Lipon sets 7 46 pm First quarter January 16

TOMORROV Sun naes ? 🏋 🗺 Moon sets Moon rees First cuerter dancery 15 pottery (4). 8 Sort found carrying drug allowed 12 Words of praise reviewing car magazine — good inside (7.5).
 15 Almost fish around faulty power

HIGH TIDES

PM 15.26 14.42 21.00 12.24 19.35 12.20 12.49 19.06 14.04 15.21 56191793217129689 6619179321714689 1203 (177 191 Not (1924 43 1313 (1775) 27 CMT

HIGHEST & LOWEST

NEWSPAPERS Recycled poper made up #1.2% of the task learning to UK newspapers in the first had of 1995

# General: England and Wales will

be generally cloudy. Rain or drizzle in the west will extend sourtwords to all parts, with select or show for a time, specially over higher ground where there could be appreciable fells in piaces. It will turn misty, with widespread hill fog.

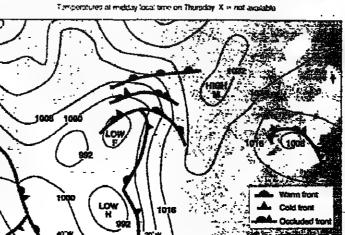
Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mostly cloudy with rain spreading from the west. The rain will be heavy in the west, with further falls of anow over the higher ground. The rain will be the control of the rain wi

the higher ground. The rain will become light and patchy later with a good deal of mist and hill fog. Central S England, E Midlands, E

England, Channel Isles, SW England: cloudy but mostly dry. Wind light, southeasterly. Rather cold, max 3C (37F). east, fresh to strong. Max 4-5C (39-41F). Outlook: blustery winds in the north and west, most parts milder.

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Van 1 34 / 15 59 5 31 88 f 24 75 s



NE England: cloudy with sleet or snow, turning to rain from west. Wind light to moderate, southeasterly. Max 3-5C (37-41F).

☐ lele of Man, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: gleet soon turning to rain on all but the highest ground. Winds fresh, locally strong, southerly. Milder, max 6-8C (43-48F).

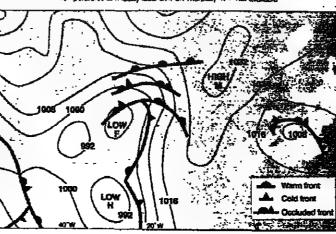
☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth: sleet and anow spreading from west, turning to rain at all but the highest levels. Wind fresh, south or southeast. Less cold, max 5-7C (41-45F).

☐ NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: ☐ NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: cloudy with sleet or snow turning to-rain and allow to clear. Wind south-

☐ W Midlands, Wales, NW England, L District, Cent N England,

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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Changes to chart from noon low F will track towards leeland and fill, low H will keep it same central pressure and move northwards; high M will drift southwards and build

#### Surry Surry Surrey Cloudy Drizzie Overces Paki Temperat (Calsius)

Collecum row: The lottery

bonanza is over. English

National Opera's bad luck

is to arrive too late at the

trough. All the grub has

been gobbled ...... Page 21

Clown prince: The Rus-

sian clown Slava Polumin

displays his virtuosity in a

new West End entertain-

ment, Snowshow... Page 21.

Strindberg: Three late

plays have been put to-

gether by the GatePage 21

Triumph: The conductor

Antonio Pappano made a

big impression in his LSQ

debut......Page 21



#### TORONTO WITH NIAGARA

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Orient-Express to Southampton on 8 June • eleven night Oriana Land of the Midnight Sun cruise to Bergen via the Norwegian Fjords and Spitsbergen ● Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £2,999

Concorde supersonic from Heathrow to Bergen on 19 June ● two night Oriana cruise to Southampton • Orient-Express to Victoria £1,299

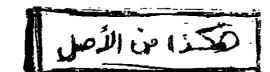
Orient-Express to Southampton on 16 August ● six night Oriana cruise to Tenerife via Praia da Rocha and Casablanca • Concorde to Heathrow £1,799

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# **KTIMES**



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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

**EXECUTIVE VOICE** 

Tony Reeves and a blind date that could end in tears **PAGE 28** 

Monday \_ Tuesday ∪ Wednesday

**WORKING WEEK** 

Egan aiming for a smooth landing **PAGE 29** 



**SPORT** 

Henman on high after victory over Ivanisevic **PAGES 46-52** 

THE HIDDEN **ASSETS OF SPENCER** HOUSE

**PAGE 29** 

SATURDAY JANUARY 11 1997

# Shares bonanza for Halifax members

By MARIANNE CURPHEY AND ANNE ASHWORTH

THE 8.5 million members of the Halifax Building Society will receive free shares worth an average £1,290 and a maximum £6,215 when the society floats on the stock market in June, becoming the UK's fifth largest bank. The highly complex process

is the biggest conversion ever undertaken and will cost the society £413 million, or £46 for wary borrower or saver. The average payment to each member is 23 per cent more than analysts originally predicted, reflecting the recov-

ery in the housing market and the favourable reception from the City. Halifax has 2.1 million investing members and two million borrowing members who will receive the minimum basic distribution of 200 free shares, worth beween £780 and £900, dependbe on market conditions at time of the float. Packs with conversion and voting details should reach members

12.4

by post by January 22. Investors with balances higher than £1,000 may qualify for an extra variable distribution. worth a maximum of between £4,606 and £5,315. To qualify for the variable shareout, members. must have had a total balance of between El.000 and E50.000 in share accounts at midnight on November 25, 1994, and midnight on February 24, 1997. Amounts above £50,000 will not be taken into account and the distribution will be calculated

"For Halifax members who are both investors and borrowers, the maximum payout roull be worth between £5,385 and £6,215, comprising 1,181 savings shares and 200 borrowing shares. Shares will be priced at between 390p and 450p, giving Halifax a market value of between £10.4 billion and £12 billion. A mid-price of 420p a share would give an average basic distribution of £840 and value the society at £11.2 billion. Halifax becomes

FTSE 100 4056.6 (-80.4) Yield 3.84% FTSE All share 1998.91 (-11.24) New York 970.00 17.303.65 (-770.22)

Tokyo close Yen 115.81

Brent 15-day (Mar) \$23.95 (\$24.40)

Landon close .... \$359.10 (\$355.55)

\* denotes midday trading price

Chemists may be coming to

end after the German Gehe

company topped a previous bid by UniChem. Page 28

Lloyds bid

Mike Blackburn, Halifax chief executive, yesterday with the transfer document detailing the free share distribution

the fifth largest bank after Lloyds TSB (worth £24 billion) HSBC [£229 billion), Barclays (Ei6.3 billion) and NatWes Bank (£12.7 billion). Of the 8.5 million qualifying members, 4.6 million will receive both tions if they have at least £1,000 in their account on the two dates. The payment will be based on one share for every £50 in their account. If the lower total balance is less than £1,000 on either of the two qualifying dates, they will

receive only the basic distribution. Other members not allowed to vote - including those aged under 18 on February 24, 1997, and those with less than £100

in accounts on December 31,

DISTRIBUTION of the Halifax conversion documents will be the biggest single mailing handled by Royal Mail and will cost the Halifax up to £20 million. It involves 13 mailing houses and eight printing companies, approximately 60 per cent of the printing capacity of the UK. The 172-page document has used 5,000 tons of paper and will be delivered by 60 lorries (one every 25 minutes) non-stop over eight days. Members can vote by post or at a special meeting at Sheffield Arena on February 24.

1996 - will receive a statutory cash bonus of about 9.4 per cent of the total held in their accounts on the latter date. hance & Leicester and North-

trigger an interest rate rise. The Halifax conversion will only go ahead if at least 3.4 The Halifax, Woolwich, Almillion savers, and more than half of all borrowers who vote, ern Rock societies all plan to convert to banks this year, vote in favour of conversion. The Halifax needs a higher voter response than other conresulting in £20 billion worth of windfalls to 15 million verting societies because it is people. Some economists say being taken over by a subsidthis flood of new money pouriary company rather than demutualising. This technicality removes its five-year protec-tion from hostile bids but enables it to use its capital

Last month concerns were raised that new shareholders holdings drop if Halifax's entry into the FT-SE 100 index was delayed. The FT-SE Actuaries UK Indices Committee, which reviews the index, has expressed concern that the lack of an institutional placing could distort the market and may seek to delay the process by up to three weeks. That could depress the value of shares.

Tempus, page 30 Vote now, page 31 Comment, page 33

## British Gas takes Argos shares dive £841m charge

BY OLIVER AUGUST

BRITISH GAS will take exceptional charges of £841 million in the run-up to its demerger. Documents sent yesterday to its L7 million shareholders disclose details of additional restructuring costs that will also affect Centrica, the newly created trading arm. British Gas has made provisions of £500 million for sever-

ance payments, writedowns on properties and other demerger costs in the results for the three months to December 3L Some £93 million of these costs are charged to the Centrica results for the nine months to September 30. According to these pro forma results, the company incurred a loss of £452 million.

British Gas has also been

burdened by a £341 million loss in respect of take-or-pay contract renegotiations with BP and Mobil. In the first total evaluation of outstanding contracts, the group yesterday said

The much-criticised British Gas long-term incentive scheme will also undergo a demerger. Directors who move either to Centrica or BG, the production and explora-

options to buy their new employers' shares. The value of the options will remain the same even though the new companies will have much smaller market capitali-sations. Shareholders are being asked to approve the demerger and new option schemes at an extraordinary

tion arm, will see current

share options converted into

meeting on February 12. Sir Michael Perry, former Unilever chairman, will become chairman of Centrica on July 1, after the resignation of Richard Giordano, the British Gas chairman. Sir Michael is a non-executive director of British Gas and will be Mr Giordano's deputy until July.

# after warning

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SHARES in Argos, the high street retailer, plunged 15 per cent yesterday after it shocked the City with a warning that expectations for profits were

ing into the economy could

The warning was taken as further evidence that Christmas was less joyous in Britain's high streets than retailers had hoped.

The company said that pretax profit for the year ended December 28 was unlikely to beat the lowest forecasts of £140 million. But it said they would be significantly ahead of last year's profit of £124.4 million. Analysts slashed their forecasts from as high as £152

million to around £138 million. Argos shares closed at 623p, down 110p. They were last at this level early last year and then climbed to a peak of 787 2p in October.

In the 35 days up to and including Christmas Eve, likefor-like sales were ahead 4 per cent. For the year to December

28, like-for-like growth was just over 6 per cent ahead. The growth slowdown came as a big surprise because Argos began its year strongly, with sales in the first eight months per cent ahead.

Argos's warning backed up the feeling that the massmarket retailers had a slower than expected Christmas. while more upmarket retailers enjoyed better fortunes.

Trading figures from Signet, the jewellery retailer, provided further evidence. Its upmarket Ernest Jones chain saw a 9.7 per cent improvement in sales around Christmas, while H Samuel, its mass-market chain, had sales ahead just 2.5 per cent.

James McAdam, chairman of the former Ratners group, said that diamond sales had been particularly strong this Christmas, but watch sales had been disappointing.

## Former NatWest subsidiary sued

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

A FORMER business associate of Sir Michael Sanberg, former chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and of Sir Ralph Halpern, former chairman of the Burton Group, is suing Solbank, NatWest's Spanish subsidiary until last year, for £250 million

The two advised Arthur Oakes, managing director of Foothill, in his attempt to buy Digsa, the troubled Spanish supermarket chain, from Ashley, the UK food-to-blinds retailer for £55 million in 1993. The three held talks with NatWest. Unigro, another Spanish retailer.

Ashley's principle banker, after which Mr Oakes signed an irrevocable contract to purchase Digsa in April.

Mr Oakes has alleged that a week be-fore completion, Solbank, formerly Ban-co NatWest Espana, which had a £10 mil-lion unsecured loan to Digsa, threatened to liquidate the company unless £25 mil-tion of security was paid. This breached the purchase contract, and was tantamount to commercial blackmail, the writ

In an attempt to refinance Digsa, Mr Oakes entered into merger talks with

Mr Oakes alleges that under instruction from NatWest, Solbank leaked confidential financial information about Digsa to Unigro and negotiated its sale to

Unigro behind Foothill's back. As a result of this, the writ states, Digsa's workforce saw their salvation in Solbank and became unmanageable. At one point Mr Oakes was advised by lawyers and directors to employ body-

guards or leave the country.

NatWest is considering its response to the action against Solhank. Solbank and Banco Sabadell were unavailable for

#### Sterling blamed for fall in output

THE City was shocked yester modest rise in interest rates

this spring.

Manufacturing fell 0.5 per cent, reversing October's rise by the same amount, the Office for National Statistics said. This leaves manufactur-

Although most still believe that the Chancellor will concede another quarter-point rise in base rates either next week or in February, any rise in rates in 1997 is likely to be limited. Industrial production rose 0.4 per cent in November after no change the previous month and was up 1.3 per cent

points lower at 4,056.6.



day by news that British manufacturing output fell in November, suggesting that the strength of the pound is now making life difficult for British exporters and weaken-ing the case for anything but a

ing a meagre 0.2 per cent higher than a year ago.

Jonathan Loynes of HSBC Markets, said the figures showed that, with sterling's appreciation hitting exporters hard, strong consumer activity at home is not enough to ensure a healthy performance in industry. He said: "With the pound showing little sign of levelling off, there must now be a real danger that a further appreciation could tip manu-

facturing back into recession."

against a year ago. Later in the day a strong US employment report revived fears of higher US interest rates. The non-farm sector December against an average forecast of 192,000.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average slumped I per cent in early trading before recovering to show a gain of around 22 points in early afternoon trade. The FT-SE 100 index closed 30.4



Anne Ashworth on the serious business of annuities

Woolwichwho gets what

ETHEMTERVIN



Abbey National taken to task over Tessa

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# Blind date could end in tears at the Millennium party

office party, but the millennidifferent people. I only hope the IT department is going to be able to join the party. Most offices have now heard of the IT "millennium timebomb" but many still seem amazingly complacent about how it could wreck their systems and their businesses. I suspect there are organisations that have been happily booking banqueting suites and ordering crates of champagne for the last day of the century, when they should have had their heads down working out how to avert a very masty crisis. The basis of the problem

computers. Most modern systems can cope. But a problem arises because "legacy applications" are incapable of working with the double zero in the date. It goes back to the

sounds almost childishly simple. The date 2000 can baffle

space was at a premium. To save um means different things to space, computers were programmed to recognise only the last two digits of a year - "97". not "1997" for instance. Understandably, such systems assume that "00", being a small number, comes before, not after, "99". As such, they get their centuries mixed up. This simple failing can throw vast areas of everyday business life into confusion.

One ludicrous result that is already on record showed up when a 103-year-old American lady was invited to a nursery school. Her birth date was "93". How would the computer know it was 1893?

But the "timebomb" is not nearly as amusing, Millions of transactions are involved, from payroll calculations to stock control, from gas bills to sell-by dates. and new implications keep emerging. Lawyers have been

t is going to be a whale of an early days of computers when advising company directors that they might be personally liable if shareholder value drops because of a failure to be prepared for 2000. Nor is it widely appreciated that although a company's basic system may be equipped to cope, systems developed at departmental level are still likely to be noncompliant. Of course the double zero problem is correctable. The technology is there and the skills are available, or at least can be made available in time. In America, for instance, specialsts in obsolescent programming lan-guage are being brought out of

> There is a price to pay. One of my main worries is that businesses do not realise how rapidly the price will increase as the millennium approaches. That is why it is right to talk of a "timebomb". Even without the 2000 data problem. IT skills are a scarce resource. One prediction is that

EXECUTIVE VOICE



Tony Reeves

the scarcity of qualified staff could double IT pay bills every year

The millennium is not the only special challenge facing the IT industry: there is the single European currency coming along. One British bank puts the cost of updating its systems for 2000 at world's total IT budget over the next few years will be devoted to averting the timebomb.

However, a survey sponsored by my organisation, Delphi Group, showed that two out of three of the largest British com-panies are wholly or partly unprepared for the millennium. Seventy per cent have not allocated a specific budget.

Does British industry some-

times take too much for granted about computers? If so, it is a tribute to the quality of service provided by the IT industry. But IT functions require long-term planning to be effective. Planning for 2000 has to be done in the context of the supply and demand situation in the fiercely competi-tive market in IT skills.

That is the bad news about the ability of Britain's IT departments to meet the challenge. Americans sources. Too many British companies seem to believe it is safe to leave it till the next financial year.

The good news is that Britain is blessed with a wealth of the necessary IT skills. On the other hand, since skill knows no frontiers, Britain could lose out as America continues to attract resources that will therefore not be available to British users. On the brighter side, today's IT industry has an amazingly flexible struc-

It can do wonders in getting scarce resources to the right place at the right time — but this works best as part of long-term, or medium-term. corporate planning.

Compared with the provision of some other business resources, IT services have evolved to the point where they enable our clients to exploit the full potential of state-

650 million. Another prediction is seem better prepared, and are of-the-art expertise. Scarce talents that up to 50 per cent of the ordering the necessary IT rethe mix of outsourcing, training and reskilling of in-house resources, plus input of top quality consultancy. The result is a professional workforce that is highly mobile and highly adaptable Many professions are going down this path. IT can claim to be

showing the way. That system suits all concerned: Most IT professionals tend to be: independent-minded, ambitious people, many of whom prefer to be self-employed. Meanwhile, the system offers invaluable flexibility to the users of IT. And it is this flexibility that will enable the millennium challenge to be met But only if there is more urgency among all IT users. Order your champagne now, by all means -but don't ignore the computers.

□ Tony Reeves is Chairman and Chief Executive of Delphi Group.

#### Reprimand for Walz

The Securities and Futures Authority, involved in disciplinary proceedings against certain senior executives at Barings over supervision of Nick Leeson. the rogue trader, yesterday ended its case against Mary Walz with a repri-mand and a E5,000 contri-

bution to costs. The SFA announced that Ms Walz, former global head of equity products, had accepted that between December 1994 and February 1995 she failed to act with due skill, care and diligence", in breach of City rules.

#### IMS placing

IMS Group, the telephone services provider, plans to float on the London Stock Exchange late this month through a £24-£27 million placing. The listing, expected to value IMS at up to E45 million, will bring a shared £2 million windfall for Bill Wilson, managing director, and Paul Rouse, his deputy.

#### Closing down

Marshalls, one of Britain's biggest chicken producers. is closing a loss-making plant at Coatbridge, Strathclyde, costing 500 jobs.

# Gehe aims to win Lloyds with final bid

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

GEHE, the German pharmaceuticals group, appears to have ensured its victory in the prolonged battle to take over Lloyds Chemists by increasing its bid to 525p per share and buying nearly 21 per cent of Lloyds shares in the market.

Gehe's latest offer, which it said is final, is worth £684 million in total, which is £100 million more than its initial bid of nearly a year ago. UniChem. the other bidder for the group, has until next Friday to decide whether to increase its cash and shares offer. It declined to comment yesterday.

Lloyds has yet to recom-mend which offer shareholders should accept. Michael Ward, managing director of Lloyds, said yesterday: "The ball is now in UniChem's court. The next milestone will be UniChem's response." Analysts doubt that UniChem will be able to raise its offer to compete with Gehe's cash. Its current offer values Lloyds at £653.4 million.

UniChem made its first bid, which was recommended by Lloyds, on January 18 last year. A month later, Gehe weighed in with a counterbid worth £584 million. Both rebid last year after clearing regulatory hurdles.

Gehe yesterday raised its offer for ordinary shares from 500p each to 525p. It will pay 338.7p for each preference share. Lloyds Chemists rose 14p to 5262p while UniChem shares rose 10p to 256p.

Allen Lloyd, the founder and chairman of the group, still owns 5 per cent of the company's shares. He stands to make more than £35 million from the sale, including compensation for loss of office. Salomon Brothers announced after the close of trading that its market-makers held a stake of almost 6 per cent.

Dieter Kämmerer, Gehe's chairman, said he thought the protracted battle was damaging Lloyds's business and that he had increased the bid because he wanted to bring the process to a swift end.



In the frame: Joseph Lee, chairman of Crown Eyeglass, reported a rise in company pre-tax profits to £405,000 from £365,000 in the half-year to the end of September

#### Consortium tables bids for Forest

THE consortium involving Nigel Wray, the businessman, Irving Scholar, the former Tottenham Hotspur chair-man, and Phil Soar, the football anthor, yesterday tabled two separate bids for Nottingham Forest, the struggling Premiership side. One puts £11 million into the club and the other £13 million.

The bids are expected to receive the backing of the Forest board and will go to a shareholders meeting in timee

The Wray group was able to bid after a minority of share-holders blocked the offer from a group backed by Sandy Anderson, who became a multimillionaire after selling Porterbrook, the train leasing company. One offer will inject shareholders up to £2.75 mlllion in cash or a 20 per cent stake in the new Forest. The other deal will put in £13 million but only gives £1.44 mil-lion to shareholders or a 10 per cent stake. Both have a new £4 million bank loan included.

Fores has asked its bankers to extend the deadline for repayment of its £6 million of borrowings while the deal is completed. Currently the loan is repayable on January 31.

#### BUSINESS ROUNCUP

#### Northern Rock £40m nursing homes deal

NORTHERN ROCK, the building society that plans to become a £1 billion bank this year, has expanded its residential and nursing care homes the £40 million acquisition of Kingsclear Homes. The deal increases the 720 beds aiready owned by Northern Rock's Regency.
Care Homes subsidiary by a further 1,250, making it the eighth-largest nursing homes group in the UK.
Kingsclear's beds are spread across 23 residential and

nursing care homes in Yorkshire, East Anglia and the Home-Counties. It earned profits of £2 million to £3million in 1994-95. Some City commentators expressed surprise at Northern Rock's expansion into a highly fragmented sector, particularily in the same week that analysts downgraded earnings forecasts for TC Group, the market leader.

#### Hi-Tec passes again

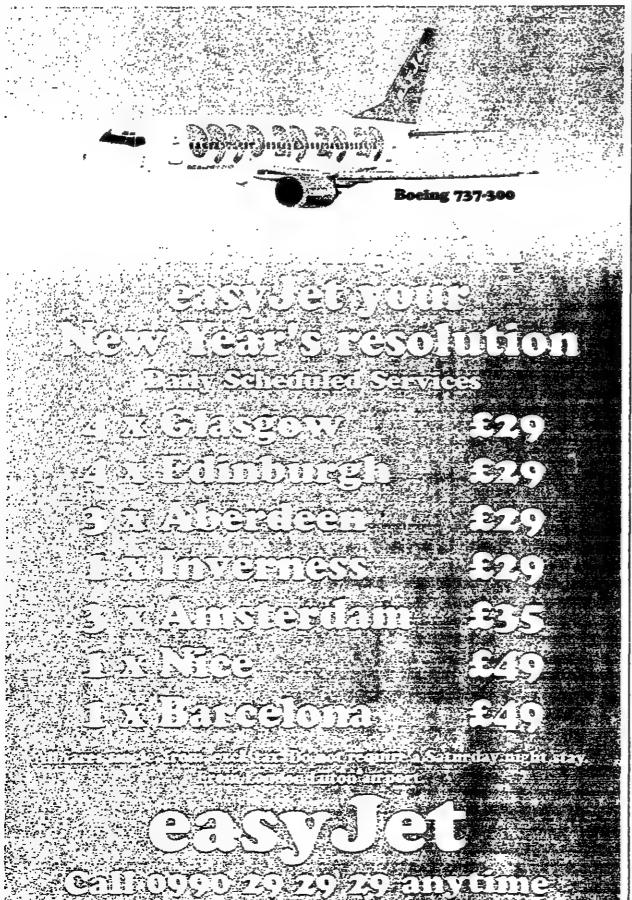
HI-TEC SPORTS; the sporting footwear maker, has again passed its interim, in spite of a 50 per cent profit recovery. Hi-Tec, which last paid a dividend in December 1994, said it was waiting until it could be sure of a recovery in the US and Canada before it resumed payouts. The pound insulated the company against a 4 per cent sales decline to £47 million in the six months to October 25. However, a collapse in the demand for its hillwalking boots in North America held back total pre-tax profits to £920,000 (£610,000).

#### BA may face slots upset

BRITISH AIRWAYS may have to give up slots at Heathrow without compensation if an alliance with American Airlines is to proceed, it was claimed yesterday. The European Commission said selling slots was illegal under European Union law. The Office of Fair Trading has indicated willingness to approve the alliance as long as BA and American give up 168 weekly slots. BA said it would go along with the proposals provided it received financial compensation. The carriers

#### Fulmar to buy Royle

FULMAR, the printing group, is buying the loss-making WR a Royle Group, for £1.25 million and is planning to invest another £7 million over the next three years to return it to profits. Royle, founded in 1833, consists of four operating companies and prints annual reports, greetings cards and high quality stationery. Royle lost £1.6 million in its last full year on £21 million sales, and losses have continued at a similar level. Fulmar believes its management will quickly stem Royle's losses.



#### **Lowndes Lambert** looks at Fenchurch

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

LOWNDES LAMBERT, the insurance broker, hopes to announce a deal to accuire Fenchurch, its smaller rival. within the next two weeks.

The companies were forced to announce their merger plans yesterday after news of a deal leaked — as evidenced by the recent strength Fenchurch's share price.

Fenchurch shares closed at 66's p yesterday, up 3's p on the day, and 20's p above the recent record low. Lowndes Lambert shares also warmed to the news, rising 7p to 110p. Lowndes Lambert has a market value of £68 million and

where profit margins have been cut over the past few years. Last year Fenchurch made profits of \$5.9 million, while Lowndes Lambert's profits were £14 million. The share price of Fen-church has fallen almost contimually since it was floated.

panies believe a merger would

bring together two comple-mentary businesses in a sector

three years ago - a symptom of the increased pressure on At the end of last year, JIB and Lloyd Thompson, two

much bigger broking houses, merged to produce the E300 million Jardine Lloyd Thomp-Fenchurch is valued at £24 million. The boards of both com-

#### **Boost for Textiles**

By Alasdair Murray

THE cold winter and imhelped Courtaulds Textiles to bounce back

245p after the company reported that winter trading had been above expectations. Courtaukls Textiles said that it anticipated an improve-ment in second-half profits because of strong con

demand for fabrics and operational improvements. The company added that business

with Marks & Spencer, its biggest customer, had contin-ued to advance.

Analysts predict that the company will reveal full-year profits, excluding exceptionals, of about £33 million. Full-year exceptional charges, to cover a restructuring plan, are expected to total £35 million.

TOURIST RATES

Serial Solid Solid



aficionados cheered when Apple's legendary . co-founders, Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak, took the stage at the annual gathering: But when Gil Amelio, the chairman said Apple had lost as much as \$150m in the final quarter of 1996, bringing losses for the year to more than \$1 ba, the euphoria vanished ... 9



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#### THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997

#### A WORKING WEEK FOR: SIR JOHN EGAN

# Airport chief on course for a smooth landing

Jon Ashworth meets the man who steered Jaguar to safety before his career took off

again with the introduction of shops to BAA

6 I'm not

going to put

flags on the

map and lose

money 🤊

less. He has made his



name as a problem-solver, first at Jaguar, then at BAA, where he brought colour to the grey worlds of Heath-row and Gatwick. But marque revived, brushes cleaned, one senses a yearning for a fresh challenge.

Collecting the trophy is fine, but there is nothing to beat the thrill of the race. Sir John, 57, certainly has the time for a fresh assignment — the next Jaguar, if you will — but recognises that this may not be BUSINESS ROlling the best course. As he says: "You know what you're best at is fixing things up, and turning them round in the right direction."

turning them round in the right direction. Stopping people doing the wrong things is really quite simple. The difficulty comes when people are getting more self-confident and start to have choices.

"Maybe your own manuity should go on a stage, and actually see something through a next phase. If you want to create a very fine company, then you've got to take it on a stage from that. That's the sort of dilemma that you've then got in your mind." Not that the angst is readily apparent. Poised at his table in the Savoy Grill, Sir John is a model of composure. apparent. Poised at his table in the Savoy

Grill, Sir John is a model of composure, cloaked in an air of self-assurance. Lunch, its the man, is a decisive

"They were making silkwork, they were painting ivory paintings, they were making metal objects—just miles and inke the man, is a decisive

"They were making silkwork, they were making silk

affair: swiftly chosen, heartily consumed. Sir John is good company. and open enough, in a guarded sort of way. He even admits to losing his temper. "Of course, we're all human, but I've discovered getting mad doesn't help. You get everybody else upset as well. I think when I get

mad, most people wouldn't even know I had got mad. You try to keep your outward behaviour as predictable as you possibly can."

Sir John does not give many interviews these days. He was constantly in the press in the 1980s, when Jaguar's turning fort-unes made him a household name — the hero who saved a great British marque.
Chief etecutive of BAA since 1990; and chairman of the London Tourist Board, he tries to keep out of the limelight. You feel that in some sense you've got this horrible thing growing up on your shoulder called your image, or whatever. Try and live up to that? Just forget it. You

> is not all bad. A tough manager who does not suffer fools, he has turned BAA into the world's largest commercial airport operator, running seven airports in the UK, and eyeing contracts from Australia to South Africa. Toes have been dipped with success in America, where SAA manages two airports — Pinsburgh and

> Nearly half BAA's income comes from retailing, and it has a healthy investment in property and construction, including the proposed Terminal 5 at Heathrow. BAA is backing new rail links from Padd-

SIR John Egan is rest ... ington and St Pancras. Since 1992, annual pre-tax profits have risen from £191 million to £418 million. Sir John is rewarded in kind, receiving £593,000 in remuneration plus £219,000 in pension contributions in the year to the end of March.

Heathrow and its sisters had seen better days when Sir John arrived on the scene. "They weren't very interesting, and were far too bureaucratic," he recalls. They'd become very dull places to be in, as they still are in many countries of the world. What we tried to do is to make them interesting."

Few would guess at the source of his inspiration After graduating from Imperial College, London, in 1961, Sir John signed up as a trainee with Shell International, and went on to work in Iran, drilling oil wells. His wife, Julia, was with him. "Our favourite city was Esfahan, right in the middle of the country," he recalls. "We drove for hours, and when you got there, there was this marvellous medieval city with a river flowing through it and miles of green around, like an oasis, really.

"It had a bazaar that was the biggest, I think, in the Middle East, where there was a tremendous amount of 'making

the most exciting places in the world."

The experience left its mark. "When I got to Heathrow, I decided we ought to have all the best things in the world, at the crossroads of the world. We were talking about the Silk Roads crossing at Samarkand, and we were going to have that

at Heathrow. The idea really came from these marvellous places that are so exciting and so interesting."

And so it is that Heathrow and Gatwick

now resemble enormous soukhs, awash with high street names. Mappin & Webb in Heathrow Terminal 4 sells more Rolex watches than anywhere in Britain. A bottle of whisky is sold every six seconds at a BAA airport. A quarter of all films sold by Dixons are sold in airport stores. All this fits with the Sir John rallying

cry: putting the customer first. "This is precisely what I did with Jaguar Cars," he says. "We spent a lot of time researching what customers wanted, and trying to put that into the cars. I've always assumed Sir John has an image, of course, and if that business is about making money out, not all bad. A tough manager who does of satisfying customers, and that, without a satisfied customer, you don't really have a business. If you start off from there, I

think you actually get it right."
Drilling oil wells was just one aspect of an extraordinarily varied career. Born in Lancashire, Sir John grew up in Coven-try, and helped out at his father's garage. He once accepted a bicycle as partexchange on a car - along with the bicycle clips. After Shell, he did an MBA at London Business School, then ventured into spare parts, working at General Motors and Leyland Cars. A stint with



Sir John Egan aimed to recapture the excitement of an Eastern bazaar by bringing dozens of high street retailers to airports to make them interesting

Massey Ferguson in Italy led to Jaguar, the stock market and a knighthood. Sir John sold the company to Ford of America in 1990 for £1.6 billion, netting £2 million

His week remains reassuringly famil-iar. A solid sleeper, he jogs in Regent's Park each morning, and sets off for the office at 8.15 in his company Jaguar. On Fridays the Egans escape to their house in Warwick for a quiet day "mending fences" - unless Twickenham is in full cry. Sir John is keen on his rugby. Sunday often finds him on the road, positioning

himself for the coming week's events.

The Egans enjoy dining out in the Charlotte Street area of London, not far from their Regent's Park home, and tend to enjoy their own company. The couple have two daughters, 24 and 28. Italian food is a favourite. They go skiing every year, and enjoy walking in Tuscany and Switzerland, as well as closer to home. There are some marvellous long-distance walks in the UK," he says. "I think our favourites are the Thames Path and the Cotswolds Way."

The Egans are also fond of the Lake District and the Devon coast - although their technique of sending luggage on ahead by taxi after overnight stops causes

consternation. "They simply can't understand why you aren't going in it," Sir John laughs. "These must be nutters here."

Restless or not. Sir John has plenty to keep him going. The report of the public inquiry into Terminal 5 is expected to be submitted to the Government later this year. Sir John says: People have accepted

that we're going to have Terminal 5. I think now the issues are, how do we make sure its impact is minimised on the communities around. We are very willing to enter that debate, and make sure we

come up with a high-quality solution."

not apply to BAA, he insists. "No one has said we are under-regulated, sold at too low a price, or making excessive profits." He extols the virtues of privatisation, while conceding that mistakes have been made. "Privatisation has been a huge success story, and it rather grieves me that the mistakes of one or two companies have coloured what's been, really, a superb piece of value-added for the nation

Labour's threatened windfall tax does

isations have given better quality and lower cost to their customers." Sir John leads from the top. "The way I manage is to try to get the long-term strategy well understood by everybody. The next thing is to set the financial and quality objectives for the company. From

as a whole Practically all of the organ-

then on, I spend most of my time helping the key people achieve their goals."
He insists he is receptive to ideas.

listen avidly to the advice people give. I don't normally react to it right away, but I sort of put it into the machine, and keep crunching away at it, until eventually l emerge with what I think we have to do."

The new year brings the prospect of new airport contracts in Australia and South Airica, but Sir John is not interested in expansion at any price. "The one thing that I've made quite clear is that I'm not going to put flags on the map and lose money. This is all about making money. If it's not going to be profitable, I won't be doing it." BAA's "customers" - shoppers and shareholders alike -- would expect nothing less.



We've gone a long way since 1881.

# Statement of power set in stone for corporate world

Spencer House, that handsome Neo-Classi-cal palace in Portland stone that looks serenely out over Green Park from St ames's Place, has recently unveiled a new restoration of one of London's greatest architectural curios. On the south side of the house is the Palm Room, Lord Spencer's bizarre chamber of marital fertility, strewn with gilded palm leaves and decorated with a cornucopia of Grecian

gold ornamental devices. Heavily gilded palm tree columns line the walls and overhead floats a pink, pale green and gold coffered dome ceiling and a grandiose frieze of griffins and candelabra copied from the Temple of Antonius and Fanstina in Rome. It was to this room that the 1st Earl Spencer retired after dinner to play cards and discuss Spencer House has recentJoanna Pitman assesses the charms of Spencer House after its restoration

iy emerged from a ten-year der the direction of Lord Rothschild, whose J Rothschild Holdings Group acquired a 125-year lease on the building from Lord Spencer

The majority of the build-ing has been fitted out for corporate use by elements of the Rothschild empire. The remaining state rooms of "London's last intact palace" house the Rothschild collection of fine art as well as exquisite artworks lent by friends, colleagues and institutions. The list includes works from the Queen's Royal Collection, the Tate Gal-lery, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Trust and George Christie.

Heavily gilded columns adorn the splendidly restored Palm Room at Spencer House

and richly decorated private gallery-palace that has provided the surroundings for lored to suit Lord Rothschild's business purposes. But since the completion of the £17 million restoration programme, he has thrown open the doors of Spencer House for hire by companies

mum of 60 functions a year. tween 1755 and 1765 for John, the 1st Earl Spencer, as a private London palace for this prominent Whig family. The shell of the house was erected and the ground floor decorated between 1755 and 1758 by John Vardy, a pupil of William Kent, under the supervision of General George Gray, an amateur

ground floor. The house was remodelled and redecorated in the 1780s under the 2nd Earl Spencer by Henry Holland, architect of Brooks's. The 19th-century Earls Spencer continued the family tradition in politics and maintained Spencer House as a focus of political and artistic society. By the 1920s, the 7th Earl, who was still in occupation, redecorated the entire to live there in the 1920s and encer House was occupied

Society of Dilettanti. Fash-

the end of 1758 Roman taste

was out and "the pure Greek

decorated the first floor and

remodelled part of the

At the height of the Blitz, many of the original fixtures were removed to Althorp, the ost all of these architec tural details have been painstakingly reproduced under Lord Rothschild's direction by craftsmen working for Dick Reid, the York mastercarver. Original colour schemes have been recreated under the direction of David Mlinaric.

by the Ladies' Army and Navy Club from 1927 to 1943.

Spencer House is now close to fulfilling again its original design as a statement of power political, royal and artistic. For information on private and corporate entertaining, call 0171-514 1964. For public opening times, call 0171-299

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# Kingfisher set to revive a suffering retail sector

KINGFISHER, the Woolworth, Comet and B&Q stores group, is expected to bring some much needed cheer to the retail sector with its trading statement on Wednesday.

In vesterday's depressed conditions, Kingfisher finished 2½p easier at 639½p. But Sir Geoff Mulcahy, chief executive, will be upbeat about current trading, with brokers also forecasting a sharp jump Christmas and new year sales. Brokers have already pencilled in a strong rise in pre-tax profits for the year to January 31, with most of them looking for £380 million compared with last year's £287 million.

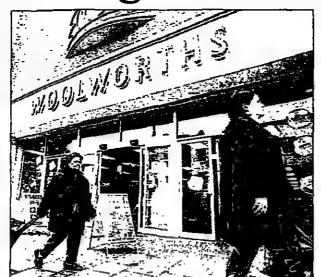
Woolworth is expected to provide the biggest impetus to profits growth, having increased its market share with the help of improved buying patterns. B&Q will have continued to benefit from the recovery in the housing

In contrast, the trading statements from other leading retailers have been, at best, mixed. Argos saw its price tumble 110p to 623p after disappointing the market with a lacklustre trading statement. Like-for-like sales were up 11 per cent but showed definite signs of slowing, while sales of toys had been difficult in the run-up to Christmas as Kingfisher grabbed market share.

The news from Argos dragged other stores lower. with Next, reporting next week, falling 22½p to 529p. House of Fraser fell 5½p to 141p. Other losers included Great Universal, down 222p to 580p. Marks & Spencer. 17p to 46512p, Boots, 712p to 611 2 p. Dixons, 13 2 p to 494p. Hamleys. 112p to 3682p. W H Smith. 162p to 4432p. and Thorn, 82p to 2602p.

The rest of the market was treated to its now customary Friday heiter-skelter performance by Wall Street, with the Dow Jones industrial average showing a 67-point fall during the firt hour. It followed some better than expected US employment numbers, providing further evidence that the Fed may be forced to raise interest rates soon. Later regained its poise.

Underpinned by to close 30.4 down at 4,056.6.



Woolworth has bagged more market share from rivals

topped I billion shares for the first time this year with heavy turnover recorded in BT, up shares), BTR, down 102p at 2542p (26 million) and Freepages, 4 p firmer at 434 p (63 million).

ICI continued to reel from Thursday's profits down-grading by HSBC James Capel, the broker, falling 16p to 735p. Capel has wiped £100

Lloyds Chemist responded to the better terms from Gehe with a 14p rise to 526½ p. The German drugs wholesaler has raised its offer from 500p to 525p in cash, valuing Lloyds at £684.1 million. With the price trading at a discount to the offer, Gehe snapped up stock. By the close, 33 million shares had changed hands. It now accounts for around 21 per

Further demand for SIG up 92p at a new high of 2742p. stretches the rise on the week to 30p. Brokers say SIG is undergoing a rerating as prospects continue to improve. This week Teather & Greenwood, the broker, came out with a "buy" recommendation and was joined by Merrill Lynch.

million from both its 1997 and 1998 projections because of the

P&O rose 17p more to 620p. still reflecting Kleinwort Benson's decision to include it among its top ten 1997 buys.

But Rediand remained in freefall, losing another 5½p to 330p, after briefly touching 322p. It now seems increasingly likely that Redland will lose its place in the top 100

rival offer is worth 505p a share. or E657 million. Unichem rose 10p to 256p.

Ryland Group climbed 28p to a new high of 1072p on news of a bid approach. The motor dealer said it was in talks which may lead to an being made. Other motor dealers continued to respond positively to bullish news about car sales out earlier this week from the Society of Motor Manufactur-

#### MOVERS OF THE WEEK

Current	West a
Barclaye Bank	+76½p Buying ahead of figures
Anica Trust £17.621/3	
Bespak555p	+80p Buoyant trading
Mickes175p	-242p Returns from suspension
Redland3305	-22p Downgrading
Dixons Group494p	-49p Worries about future profits
113a	-25g Profits Warning
Cl7359	-34p Broker downgrades profits +43½p Buying ahead of figures
Wetthew Clark305p	+431/2p Buying ahead of figures

5p to 116p, Evans Halshaw, 11p to 2522p, Dixon Motors, 21p to 267p, and Charles

Sidney, 52p to 90p. Fenchurch Insurance, mentioned in this column yesterday, enjoyed an early mark-up, rising 8½p to 66½p after confirming it was in merger talks with rival Lowndes Lambert. 7p higher at 110p. The Fenchurch price climbed sharply on Thursday, leading to claims that a bid may be imminent. Speculators say terms are likely to be allpaper, valuing Fenchurch at

around 80p a share. Arabis rose 5½ p to 22p after the company announced it was in bid talks. At these levels It is capitalised at £12.4

ASW Holdings fell 4p to a new low of 29p after confirm-ing earlier this week that it had continued to incur losses

since June. This week's profits warning left Rubicon a further 10p lower at 1022 p. The price was further undermined by a cross in 500,000 shares at 100p.

Wellington Holdings firmed 2p to 2552p after splashing out £5.1 million for Dynamic Seals in the US. Earlier this week, ABN Amro Hoare Govett came out with a 'buy" recommendation for the

group.

Doeflex jumped 114p to 285p. Edinburgh Fund Managers has increased its stake in the company to 2.04 million shares, or 11.7 per cent.

☐ GILT EDGED: Prices moved better after weaker

than expected industrial production numbers. But the gains were short-lived, with London following US Treasury bonds lower on the latest US employment figures. in futures, the March long

closed unchanged at £10831/32 as the number of contracts completed reached 93.000. There was a steepening of the yield curve as shorter dated issues outperformed longs. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished five ticks down at £101916, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was E's firmer at

NEW YORK: US blue chips survived a surprisingly strong December employmen that sent bonds into a tailspin. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was only 17.31 points lower at 6.608.36, after a loss of almost

#### Society gathering BACK in the 1930s, it was fashionable among the mad and the bad to believe that a

conspiracy of bankers and financiers was about to take over the world. Today we are better informed; we know that no banker could possess such global vision. (Besides, even if they did bid for the world, we know that they would pay too much for it.) Yet the market is enchanted with the banks, an introspective obsession that is best seen in the

FT-SE 100 index of leading shares. Add up the market values of the FT-SE banks, insurers and financial service companies and you get a financial juggernaut worth more than £150 billion, almost a fifth of the value of the index as a whole. And that number will soon increase with the arrival of the building societies. With a total value of £16 billion, Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance &

billion of manufacturing businesses out of the FT-SE, making way for mortgages, life. insurance premiums and whizzo treasury schemes. Add up the numbers and by the end of the year, the financial sector could account for more than 23 per cent of the FT-SE 100. Does it matter? Possibly. Such indices are

used as a barometer of economic mood and expectations of the financial health of UK pic. But outside the dealing rooms no one believes that banks and life insurers are so important. British Invisibles reckons they contribute not a quarter of GDP but only 7 per cent. But banks are now very profitable, providing returns of 23 per cent or more, double what manufacturing achieves. The question now is when, not whether the overcapitalised finan-

If optimism about other

retailers also proves over-done, the market will have

big cause to worry. With

exporters profits trounced by

the strong pound, domestic retailing is the big white

hope for investors. More

modest expectations for the

high street could leave this

bull market looking even

#### Argos

4056.6 (-30.4) 4507.8 (-9.9)

2021-3 (-12.6)

RPIX ...... 153.7 Nov (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

2785

MAJOR NDICES

New York (midday): 6608.36 (-17.31)

Tokyo:

Hong Kong: Hang Seng

Amsterdam

Sydney:

Frankfurt

Singapore:

Brunsels

Paris:

Zurich:

London:

Cadcentre

Epicore Network GB Railways

Highams Systems

Oxford Blomedics

Wst Bromwich Alb £220

Compei Gp n/p (160) 37: Fisher J n/p (120) 181:

Prism Rail n/p (330) 125 RPC n/p (142) 21

Shaftesbury n/p (137) 22

MAJOR CHANGES

. 160p (+20p) . 125p (+14p)

252'+0 (+110

3790 (+1150)

. 186'sp (-15p) . 186'sp (-11p) . 347p (-15'sp) . 529p (-22'sp)

. 580p (-22'sp . 682p (-22'sp

Pisher J n/p (120) Pressac Hidgs n/p

Wickes n/p (150)

BS Group

Evens Halsher

Pour like

Parkwood Hidgs

Pilat Tech Sunderland

THE CITY has suddenly become nervous about the great retailing recovery. Argos has let the world know that the lowest City forecast of its profits - some £140 million — is in fact at the top

of the range.
That led to a massive selloff yesterday, with Argos shares dropping 15 per cent. Yet Argos is still likely to last year's level. In effect, the City had developed unrealistic expectations about sales and apparently overlooked some costs falling in the second half.

The result was a balloon of ising expectations with brokers leapfrogging over the forecasts of their rivals. Argos is not without its

problems. Expanding fast, the company's new outlets have been taking business

SHOPPED TILL IT DROPPED

#### Lloyds Chem

THE silence was deafening from UniChem yesterday after its rival, the German wholesaler Gehe, put on the table a £684 million final offer for Lloyds Chemists. UniChem has little to gain from pursuing this one further. An attempt to match the 525p cash offer from the Germans would entail a substantial further issue of shares. Moreover, any sign that UniChem was prepared to raise its offer would deal a hammer blow to UniChem stock and so further increase the size of the share issue and the potential earnings

To trump Gehe would be a self-defeating strategy, its bid the British wholesaler reckons it can reduce overhead by £20 million in a year although it may have to achieve more than that to avoid dilution to its earnings. Gehe, too, must achieve sav-

but its cost of capital is lower and in accepting Gene's cash, Lloyds investors can adopt a low-risk strategy. Indeed, if the market is bidding for stock at 525p, there is little incentive for Lloyds holders to wait for a cheque from Gehe; they might as well self.

from old stores, damaging

ike-for-like sales growth.

There was also a mysterious

slow-down in the autumn

while December was better

does not mean that the Argos

management has lost its

touch but the stock is still at a

could show further

memium to the sector and

what UniChem's options are for the future. Failing to win Lloyds is a disappointment but not a disaster. Gehe will spend more than a year rationalising AAH and

UniChem will be able to exploit any weakness and continue to build up its retail UniChem bid lapses then UniChem's stock can be ex-

British Gas

BRITISH Gas has once again lobbed a financial gre-nade into the City — this time in the form of a surprise £500

dancies and surplus property

write-offs. BG still awaits the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's ruling on the Ofgas pricing formula for Transco and cynics might wonder whether the provision is designed as much to impress the MMC as to provide shareholders with financial information about BG. The future rémains as obscure as ever with BG's best business upstream exploration and

production — lumbered with the regulated pipeline utility and its dividend obligations. It is probably too late to stop this demerger so investors must speculate about the fortunes of Centrica. Free of price controls and the need to pay a dividend, a cheap Cenesting punt. But in future gas will sell on price, just like petrol. To succeed in that market will require retailing flair, a commodity in short supply at

stretching the fall on the week to 32.9 points. Turnover	Metthew Clark305p +4	31-2p Buying ahead of figures		
COMMODITIES				
COCOA   May   Ma	Copper Ode A Systemer Cash: 2409	WETAL EXCHANGE Redoff Welff 26,000 Sends 22 - 0,000 1		
	LIFFE OPTIONS	7 ]		
C.S.W.   Good 12   20   10   15   25	Williams 130	Americania   Ameri		
Vedatine 201 in 197 25 1 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	Cally 130 141 25 9 2 1 1 150 130 130 130 130 130 130 130 130 130 13	Desired   1.   1.   1.   1.   1.   1.   1.   1		

70 points in earlier de	Closing Prices Page 45						
LONDON FINANCIAL FETURES							7
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THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997



#### **TESSA TEASE 34**

The academic who rumbled Abbey National

# WEEKEND MONEY

#### **REFUND TIME 37**

Check your statements just in case



THE STATES: PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

# Vote now or risk losing your shares

Anne Ashworth and Marianne Curphey

on how the Halifax needs 3.4m

'yes' votes before proceeding with float

tude of the vote on its plans to become a bank. The scale of operation has been compared to the tallest fisherman's tale about the size of a catch, to the loudest sound that can come from the lungs of the luvviest of actors, and to a giant baby

tumbering around a supermarket aisle.

Yesterday the Halifax supplied some more specific details. To ensure that its plans are passed, 3.4 million of its investors must say "yes", that is 50 per cent of all those who qualify to vote. The assent of borrowers is less important. Only a simple majority of those voting is required.

To ensure that it achieves the turnout of investors, the society has begun a cam-paign to make certain that its customers submit their ballot papers. On the first page of the transfer document, which sets

out the terms of the flotation, customers are told that their free shares could be in eopardy unless they cast their votes.

Those tempted to be dilatory are warned that they must submit their ballot papers by February 17, unless they wish to attend the special general meeting at the Sheffield Arena on February 24. Latest posting day will be St Valentine's Day, Friday, February 14.

February 24 is also an important date for those wishing to ensure that they receive the maximum number of shares. Those savers who qualify for the additional variable distribution of shares who have allowed their balances to fall below the all-important £1,000 level must top up their accounts by February 24, or lose their entitlement. If they forget to do so, they will get the basic distribution of only: 200 shares, worth an estimated £840.

two million borrowers, the overwhelming

n a series of advertisements since receive the basic distribution. To qualify, Boxing Day, the Halifax Building you need to have had a balance of £100 or society has emphasised the magniaccounts at midnight on November 25, 1994, and at December 31, 1996. These accounts must remain open until the stock market flotation in June.

count, only share accounts confer crucial voting and membership rights. Only those able to vote will be eligible for a

Some 4,6 million people will qualify for both the basic and the variable distribution, including those borrowers who are also investors with the society. Only those who had £1,000 in a share account, or share accounts at November 25, 1994, December 31, 1996, and at February 24, 1997, are eligible. The number of free shares they will pocket will be based on the lower of their total balances at these dates, with one extra free share being iven for every £50 over the £1,000

This means that someone who had

to the care of the Halifax will get 1,181 shares, worth £4,960, the maximum

Unfortunately for those customers in denosit accounts, such as the Cardcash account and Asset Reserve cheque ac-

Borrowers will benefit if they had £100 or more in a Halifax mortgage account at November 25, 1994, and at December 31, 1996, and at the date of flotation in June.

threshold up to a limit of £50,000.

£5,673 invested with the society at November 25, 1994, and has £11,500 at February 24, 1997, will be deemed to have a "lower total balance" of £5.763 and will receive 294 free shares, including their 200 basic distribution. These will be worth £1,235 at 420p mid-price for the shares, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank advising the Halifax, has estimated their value at between 390p and 450p per share. Those investors with £50,000 entrusted

available nowever large your balance. To the ire of those with joint accounts, only the first named on the account

dissension among couples who have pooled their savings. The Halifax has taken pains to ensure the rights of widows and other successors in a complex set of provisions covering 20 pages of the 165page transfer document. However, a widow or widower will be eligible only for the additional variable distribution if they were two-year investing members with the society at December 31, 1996.

The Halifax intends to distribute some £16 million in a statutory cash bonus to its savers under 18 who do not have votes and so cannot receive shares, and to those with balances of less than £100 in share accounts at December 31, 1996. This bonus will be approximately 9.4 per cent. However, thrifty younger savers hoping to make a killing may be disappointed. The bonus will be given only on the first

£1,000 invested, meaning that the maximum payout will be £94.

Xtra effort: the scale of the Halifax's operation to convince members to vote has been compared to a giant baby lumbering around a supermarket aisle

To educate its army of shareholders, the Halifax will be sending out information on the stock market, although it expects that many will wish to dispose of their

holdings as soon as possible. Those who decide to hold on to their free shares in this new bank and in any other of the societies also becoming banks this

year will be able to shelter them from tax in a personal equity plan (Pep). As disclosed in The Times and finally announced by the Inland Revenue this week, the shares will be transferred at zero value, as they have not been paid for. As a result, anyone minded to do so can invest a further £9,000 in other Peps, as their annual allowances will be unaffected.

#### Some 4.1 million members, including stands to benefit, in a rule that has caused much grief in this and other majority of the Hallfax faithful, will bullding society conversions and much L&G back in annuity business

egal & General, one of the United Kingdom's biggest pension providers, has returned to the annuity market after an absence of three years (Caroline Merrell

MALL STREET

The company stopped sellthat it was unable to offer competitively priced products. It has decided to return to the fray because it believes that it can now offer annuities with higher rates which will be

Legal & General is also hoping to exploit the trend towards money purchase pension schemes, where the size of the pension is defined by amount contributed. Those with money purchase schemes must purchase an annuity at some point in their.

The company is also pre-

dicting a big increase in the number of people retiring. Tony Filbin, Legal & General's head of personal pen-sions, said: "The number of maturing pensions is on the increase and set to grow over the coming years because of the shift from final-salary to money purchase schemes and

a rising trend towards early

Peter Ouinton, managing director of the Amounty Bureau, the pensions specialist, believes that Legal & General will offer good annuity rates on certain types of products. He said: "We think they will offer good rates for single-life funds of under £50,000."

the annuity will provide a pension for the spouse if the policyholder dies. A single-life product does not offer this

Legal & General, a £10.000 lump sum will buy an annual income of £1.120 on a singlelife basis for a male aged 65. This compares favourably with the £1,102 offered by Generali, a company that is well known for offering some of the best annuity rates. Royal & Sun Alliance, meanwhile, would pay an annuity of £1.057.

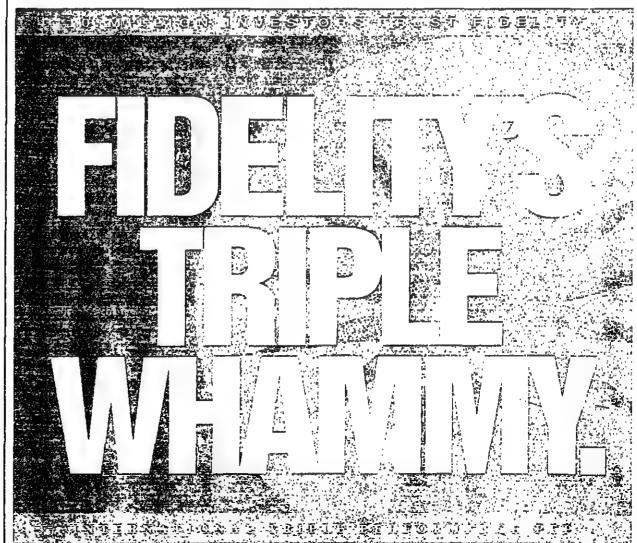
On a joint-life basis, Legal & General is not quite as generous. A £10,000 pension would

**WEEKEND MONEY** is edited by Anne Ashworth Generali offers a better rate at

In general, annuity rates are at a very low level. Their rates are linked to the prevailing level of interest rates, which are historically low. Mr Quinton said: "The end of 1996 saw annuity rates move up for the first time in several months, marking an end to the downward spiral which

lasted since July." The Prudential, Swiss Life, Canada Life and MGM all half of December. Stalwart was the first annuity provider of 1997 to increase rates on December 3.

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Source of performance figures: Micropal, offer to bid to 1 12 96. An investment in Pidelity International Triple Performance PEP will be split as follows: Fidelity European Trust (25%), Fidelity South East Asia Trust (25%) and Fidelity Special Situations Trust (50%) Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of tax assumptions may be subject to future statutory change and the value of tax assumptions may be subject to future investment Services Ltd, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. Fidelity only provides information about its product and does not give unrestment arivec based on individual circumstances. Issued by Fidelity Investments Ltd, the Fidelity PEP manager, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority.

# Season for stock-pickers

eceived wisdom says that 1997 will be a "down" year for the London stock market, and a few others as well. We shall see. After ten days, the average is marginally lower. That is not surprising after a suspicious-ly convenient new high at year end. when the books are made up. In the short term, moderate reports on Christ-mas trading will not help. Nor will cuts in brokers' profit forecasts for companies vulnerable to the rising pound. Such short-term caution is hardly cause to cash in and belatedly hibernate. Averages only tell you about the average. Many unit trusts reflect that,

but not all. As quoted here before, Niels

Taube, doyen of UK fundamental

analysts, can remember few years in his

long career when overall market move-

ments obliterated skills at picking the right companies to invest in. Anyone who doubts that need look no further than the performance of big companies in 1996. Over the year, the FT-SE 100 index of Britain's biggest companies rose by 11.6 per cent. But that would tell you little about what happened to the value of the 100 individual companies that made up that index.

Details kindly provided by Data-stream International show that only 40 of the 100 ended with gains within 20 percentage points round the average. Only two in five gained between 1.6 per cent and 21.6 per cent. The performance of the majority bore little resemblance to the index they jointly make up.

At the top, Enterprise Oil gained 63 per cent. At the bottom, Hanson fell by 32 per cent, even after adjusting for its



put on more than 40 per cent. Although Hanson was in a league of its own, five others lost more than 10 per cent.

Unfortunately for many private investors, the worst losers were mostly bigger than the best winners. They included British Gas, Allied Domecq, BTR and BAT Industries as well as Hanson. All these stocks are widely held. All were widely proffered by professional advisers as safe, good value holdings — often helping pension funds to unload.

In 1996, those who bought Railtrack's partly paid shares were instant and big winners far ahead of the index. British Energy investors had to be patient but have now gained about 30 per cent in six months. Later in 1997, there should be gains for millions who receive shares in Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester as fund managers ritually buy control of the former building societies from private investors in the market. Picking winners among existing

stocks is easier said than done. The longterm approach is to choose companies double-figure rate for at least the next two years, that have strong positions in bealthy markets and good reputations. Profit growth gives these momentum, even if a market fall hits their ratings. Chasing bargain basement big names

can often produce gains in a bad year for the markets. Those of us who are suckers for the January sales approach know, however, that there are good reasons for well-researched stocks to fall from grace. United Biscuits may have looked cheap a year ago, but fell a further quarter in 1996. Hanson has had two bad years in a row. These again feature among new year tips, however, along with Allied Domeco, BAT and ICI, also a poor 1996 performer.

few will doubtless shine. BAT is a cyclical stock, torn between bad vibes on tobacco and strong profits. After a nervy 1996, it may bounce back. Over the long haul, this looks a cheap stock destined to remain cheap. Hanson may spring to life after its final demerger of Eastern, but the latter looks more obviously artractive to an American power utility.

Aside from such special situations, many of us back the recovery of troubled companies too early. Wiseheads wait for reliable evidence of improvement. Potential bidders for down-and-outs such as Sears often wait for someone else to do the hard work. Early birds can earn the best returns. They can also have a long, depressing, profitless wait.

Sara McConnell explains who will benefit most in the flotation

# Don't be left behind in the race for Woolwich shares



safeguard their bonuses, ensuring that they re-ceive the maximum number of shares. As well as a basic distribution of shares worth £844 the society is making an additional distribution to the 1.12 million investors who had been with the Woolwich for two years at December 31, 1996, and held at least £1,000

31, 1995. However, they will lose the right to these extra shares if their accounts remain below this level.

They have a month to top up their balances before the society's special general meeting on February II at the London Arena in Docklands. If savers who qualify for the variable distribution fail to replenish

the basic payout. This means that someone with £5,000 in Conversion. his or her account at December 31, 1995, who let their balance fall below a £1,000 would lose £368. If they do qualify for the additional distribution they will receive four shares for every £100 in their borrowers. accounts, giving them a mini-mum of 40 shares and a In its transfer document,

maximum of 2,000, on top of the basic distribution. The bonus will be calculated on the lower of the two balances on December 31, 1995 (the first reference date) and February ii, 1997 (the second reference

Woolwich has indicated that the share price will be between 175p and 200p, with a midprice of 187p.

Based on this mid-price, those with £5,000 saved, for example, stand to get an additional variable distribution of 200 shares, making a total distribution worth £1,218. Those 60,000 fortunate souls with balances of £50,000 or more will gain the maximum bonus of £4,593. This includes the basic distribution of 450 shares, worth £844. The 910,000 remaining savers and the 530,000 borrowers will also receive this basic distribution.

Those who are both borrower and savers and who have more than £50,000 in their savings account will qualify for the maximum bonus worth

The Woolwich's plan to make an additional variable distribution to larger savers should save it from the wrath of its more substantial investors. Larger savers with the Alliance & Leicester remain irate that their society pro-

However, Members For group, argues that a flat-rate payout would have given all 2.57 million members 650 shares each. This would have meant larger payouts for three quarters of savers and all

which details every aspect of the society's plans to turn itself into a bank, the Woolwich reveals the following key information:

As a bank, the Woolwich is expected to be valued at be-tween £2.9 billion and £3.38 bill<u>i</u>on. At the mid-value of E3.17 billion, the shares would

> Extra variable distribution should lessen the wrath of larger investors

be worth 187p each. These shares will be included in the FT-SE 100 index.

Ali savers with a total balance of £100 or more on December 31, 1995, and December 31, 1996, will receive the basic payout of 450 shares. Borrowers with mortgages of £100 or more will also receive the basic payout. Only first-

qualify. Savers who failed to top up accounts to the £100 level by the end of last year will lose the right to free shares. Instead, they will get a statutory cash bonus of 10 per cent of their balance. Children under 18 retain membership.

had less than £100 in their accounts will also get a statutory cash bonus. They will not have the right to vote at the special general meeting.

The society confirmed that joint accounts where the first-named holder died before the flotation would still qualify for a payout. If a first-named holder who qualifies for the variable payout as a two-year saver with a baiance of more than £1,000 dies before the flotation, the second-named holder will get the payout. He or she will also get a payout from any other account for which he or she is the first-named holder. Alternatively, a surviving secondnamed holder will get the basic payout if that was all the dead member would have received. But such secondnamed holders will be unable to claim a payout from any other held.

Disabled people whose ac-counts are held in the name of carers or staff, with the disabled person as the secondnamed account holder, will not qualify for payouts.

Members wanting to vote on the Woolwich's proposals can attend the special general meeting at the London Arena in Docklands at 2.30pm on February II. Alternatively, they can vote by post by February 10. For the proposals to be approved, at least 20 per must vote, of whom at least 75 per cent must vote in favour. There must be a simple majority of borrowers who vote being in favour.

You can run down your balance after the key date of February 11, but it is vital to

# IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY A PENSION, MAKE SURE IT'S ONE OF THE BEST ON THE MARKET. **HOW MUCH YOU ARE CHARGED** INVESTMENT TRACK RECORD No. of Top Ten Appearances 1974-1996 of Savings parceys of regular contribution with-profits personal penulsa plans, 1974-1996 The effect of charges

Choosing a personal pension plan is not an easy task. Superficially, many plans can look similar, so what factors should you consider when making

Price, performance and flexibility are perhaps the key indicators that will enable you to differentiate the wheat from the chaff.

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All companies are now required to disclose to potential buyers the cost of investments such as personal pension plans. Comparing the charges made by different companies can be quite

The chart above left compares the effect of the charges made by various companies to recoup such costs as commission, remuneration and administration for a £200 pm. 20 year regular contribution with-profits personal pension plan. Source: Money Management, October 1996.

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# Patience pays off for Halifax members

Patience has been its own re-ward for Halifax borrowers and savers. Many have com-plained about the long delay between the announcement of the floration in November:1994 and payout day in June 1997,

However, this period of waiting has been fruitful because of a combination of circumstances. House prices have recovered, giving a boost not only to the Halifax, but also to the closely comparable but arready quoted Abbey National. As a result, Abbey shares have risen, and so have the estimates

for the Halifax price.

The value of the free shares to be distributed to 8.1 million fortunate members seems likely to be more than 20 per cent better than originally predicted. The Abbey happiness effect has also spread to the Woolwich. where the estimated windfalls are almost 25 per more than expected. While crossing its fingers that the



ANNE ASHWORTH Personal Finance Editor

market does not suffer a reverse before the summer, the Halifax should be concentrating on ways to keep its customers smiling after flotation. A significant improvement

in savers' rates would be a good start. Don't count on it

AN ABACUS in primary colours illustrates the promotional literature for Legal & General's push into the annuity market, presumably to sugggest how simple and straightfor-ward its offers will be. But anyone whose personal pension is now maturing and who needs to buy an annuity should be cynical about such symbols, and also of phrases like "it's the numbers that matter", the slogan

for the new enterprise. L&G has been attracted back into this field because more people now obliged to buy annuities, from which their retirement income will be paid.

Thousands more employees than previously are also members of money purchase company schemes and are required to arrange annuities for themselves. Few have any idea of the wide variation in rates and the need to shop around.

For L&G, these statistics are the "numbers that matter", rather than the amount that you will receive from your annuity. Legal & General's rates will not necessarily be better than those of its rivals. Although it talks of competitive pricing this is easy when rates are low, as at present. It is more difficult when they begin to rise.

Prospective annuitants should keep their calculators at hand, rather than an abacus, when they compare rates from different insurers. Always remember that Jane Austen described annuities as a "very serious business" and take Legal & General at its word — it is the numbers that matter, not the hype,



Words of wisdom: Keith Hagar, 67, gives specialist advice to two customers who have elderly relatives concerned about their finances

#### PORT FOLIOS

# 

Portfolio EuroPEP is to be launched in February with a three week fixed price offer. The offer opens on Saturday February 8 and closes on Friday February 28.

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# Senior service to ease care worries

unto pensioner in Help the Aged's new financial advice service for the elderly. Long Term Independence Planning will be staffed mostly by people close to or past

Keith Hagar, 67, will be among them Like his 16 fellow advisers, Mr Hagar will be authorised by the Personal Investment Authority, Mr Hagar, who was formerly a Diplomatic Service officer, said: "My age makes people feel more comfortable. They feel more at ease with someone who is more mature."

The launch of the service has been prompted by the number of requests for financial help received by Help the Aged's information helpline. Almost half of the 60,000 people who contact Seniorline each year have concerns about finance, with many worrying about how to pay for long-term care.

One of the special responsibilities of Long Term Indepen-dent Planning will be to offer advice on the financial aspects of long-term care, including the specialised insurance policies covering the cost of going into a home.

Help the Aged said: "After discussing each person's per-ticular needs, the adviser will prepare a personalised report with various options. The advice is confidential and free of charge. The aim of the adviser is always to provide the best possible advice.

The service will rely on funding from the commission generated from products sold. The financial consultants have also received training on the

Help the Aged estimates that about one million pento which they are

The service will also help pensioners, their families and

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those approaching retirement to understand:.. ■ The responsibilities of the

NHS and nocial services; ■ Treatment of property; Assessment of couples: ■ Deprivation of assets and

Legal matters; and The appropriate financial Anyone contacting the service helpline will initially be

asked to complete a questionnaire. Christine Cryne, head of commerce and corporate fundraising at Help the Ageo said: "Once the form is completed ... an adviser is put in contact with the person. According to the complexity of the issues, a discussion can take place either over the telephone or a face-to-face interview is arranged."

For further details, telephone

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Sara McConnell takes Abbey National to task over advertising campaign

# New-look Tessa is such a tease



bbey National admit-ted this week that its linked Tessa will be impossible to achieve on past market

The new Tessa is being extensively advertised, as millions of savers consider their options after the maturing of £2 billion of first-generation Tessa accounts. Abbey's Tessa promises a return of 100 per cent of capital, plus potential returns of up to 98 per cent.

But savers will achieve this return only if two market indices, the FT-SE 100 and the S&P 500 in the US, both rise every month for five years. This has never happened since the FT-SE 100 was created in 1984. according to Micropal, the specialist market statistics analysts. Six months is the longest that both have risen

But Charles Pinder, Abbey's director of savings and invest-ments, said the use of the figure must be seen in the context of the sales process". He said: "If we were allowing people to infer that this return is what they could reasonably expect, we could be criticised, but there is no obfuscation, no hiding away. No one can invest in this Tessa off the page. The application form only comes with a detailed brochure." The account is fully explained by branch staff, he added. Savers in the Tessa will

earn interest on their invest-ment at a rate of 1.15 per cent in any month in which both indices rise by any amount. If one or both the indices fall or stay the same there will be no earned it cannot be taken away. If both indices fall or stagnate consistently over the five-year investment period, savers could find themselves with nothing more to show for invested in the first place.



Professor Antony Allott was amazed when the Personal Investment Authority said the stock market Tessa is a savings product and not its responsibility teed. As such, they are not the

responsibility of the Personal Investment Authority. Banks

ear, the actual return would mentioned in the Abbey's advertisment. Savers would have received a total of £13,125, including their capital investment of £9,000. A return of 98 per cent would have given them a total of £17,873. Since 1984, the average return over any five-year period

would have been £12,776. whole £9,000 is put into the Tessa immediately. But only those with maturing firstgeneration Tessas can do this. Those just starting to invest in a Tessa can put only £3.000 year because of Inland Revenue restrictions. The remaining £6,000 goes into a feeder

net of tax, not gross as in the Tessa. Abbey has not calculated the potential return for first-generation Tessas, saying it would be too mathemat ically complex. But it agreed the return would be lower than for savers able to invest the whole amount.

and building societies which sell stock market-linked Tessas are not bound by the PIA's marketing rules.
But Professor Antony Allott, a Times reader from

#### 6 There are gaps in the protection offered to potential customers ?

the Abbey's are not considon the performance of the stock market. They are considered deposits because the return of capital is guaran-

investor who believes this is the PIA that Abbey's adverthe PIA told him the Tessa was a savings product and not was an investment linked to the stock market. After all the advertisement said so, using the word 'investment' four times, 'stock market' six times, 'invest' twice and 'investors'

and investing once each."

The Banking Ombudsman, who investigates disputes between banks and their customers can act only if the ing bank customer. It does not ulate bank advertising.

Professor Allott concluded: There are obvious gaps in the protection offered to potential customers who may be beguiled by misleading marketing

people. It is our job to sell the product honestly." Abbey is not bound by the PIA's rules, sell customers unsuitable savings accounts and endanger the bank's reputation. Independent financial ad-

visers are becoming uneasy about stock market-linked Chamberlain de Broe, said: These accounts are loosely regulated and there is scope for misunderstanding. What you are doing |with the Abbey Tessal is potentially giving be told there is a risk and that £2,000 or £3,000 that they would get in an ordinary

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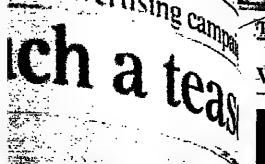
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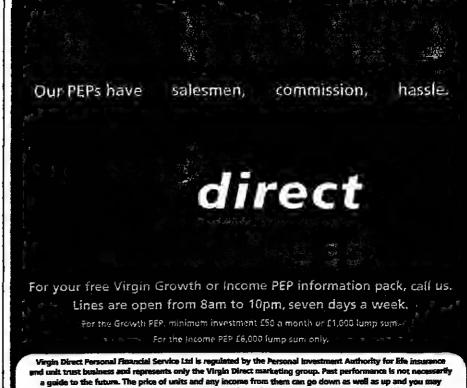




# while Gavin Lumsden reiterates a previous wealth warning



No room for error: all circus performers must have an absolute guarantee that their equipment will work perfectly 100 per cent of the time



# Don't be fooled by bond sales patter

lies, and then there are statistics from guaranfixed and high-income bond providers. Last month the Instititte of Actuaries attacked life companies and bancassurers

over the figures they use to market their products. With offers of up to 10.5 per cent annual income and/or high growth plus capital secafter five years, these bonds have become extremely popular as interest rates have:

languished in recent years. of Scotland and the Royal Bank Institutions such as the Bank of Scotland have launched high-income bonds alongside Eurolife, Financial Assurance, Hamilton Life, Swiss Life, Friends Provident, Millennium Life, General Accident and Scottish Life International, raising hundreds of millions of

But the institute believes many savers may be unaware of the extent to which their capital may be at risk. From the start, all high-income bonds have linked capital protection to the performance of a stock market index, typically the FT-SE 100: In the past year a link added as product providers

Typically, savers are prom-ised all their capital back if the FT-SE 100 or the S&P 500 grow over the term, or 50 per cent return of capital if either falls by 5 per cent or more. But what has really upset the actuaries is the frequent statement by life companies that "neither index has fallen over any of the 1,740 five-year periods [when a fiveyear period can start on each. working day of each year since

duced in 1984\*, -The institute says that focusing on the past 12 years has been a period of exceptional growth with low inflation. It norms to the fact that since 1974

there has actually been a 23 per

capital security if either the FT-SE 100 or S&P 500 do not fall during the period - and it plans to use the problematic sentence. Alan Gill, head of product design and marketing, said: "We're not trying to pull

The product is based on the FT-

SE 100, which began in 1984. The statement that it hasn't

failen for 1,740 five-year peri-

ods is fact. We always add the

caveat that past performance is

never a guide to the future." \_ .

chairman of the institute and

However, Peter Norwell,

Actuaries warn on bond guarantees

Double warning: how we have twice highlighted the problem

cent chance of either one of the indices falling over five years. Going back to 1924, it points out that the UK market alone has fallen in 26 per cent of fiveyear periods.

Paul Grace, of Scottish Equitable and the institute, is particularly concerned by those products which offer a guaranguarantee is very emotive and a reasonable level. They are not guaranteed as they ultimately depend on the performance of

the market." But Andrew Barrie, of Barrie & Hibbert, an Edinburgh actuary, says savers intending to spend the income particularly need to appreciate the true points out that there were just two separate five-year periods since 1984.

Royal Scottish, a Bank of Scotland subsidiary, is launching a five-year bond paying 8

Selling your endowment policy? Divorcing? Re-mortgaging?

amnesja in their customers.

Mark Joannes, group director

for personal investments at

today's economic conditions."

Priends Provident has just

S&P do not fall over five years.

Chris Bridge, actuarial manag-

is a danger if it is mis-sold and

wouldn't want to sell to people

The Personal investment Au-

thority has said that it will issue

who couldn't take that risk."

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says bond providers should show market performance over a longer period. He said: go a lot further back than 1984." Other product providers seem to want to instil historical Financial Assurance, said: "I'm not sure how what happened in the 1930s says anything about closed a higher-income bond offering 10.5 per cent annual income if the FT-SE 100 and er in product development, sald the company is reviewing whether to include pre-1984 figures in its literature. "There people are reliant on getting the capital back at the end. We new guidance to the industry

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## Marianne Curphey examines a new product with a money-back feature



Talking point: a lot of customers discovered they were paying very high charges

# Eagle Star goes for guaranteed pensions

general insurance arm
of BAT Industries, has launched the first UK pension with a money-back guarantee. It will be sold over the telephone and will reimburse customers who wish to transfer to another pension provider within two years.

Life insurers have traditionally imposed heavy penalties on customers who stop or transfer out of their personal pension in the early years. They defend this by saying that the start-up costs of a personal pension are high.
Eagle Star's Managed Pen-sion Fund will not impose an

early surrender penalty. Howthe company expects fewer than 5 per cent of customers to take up the offer, which suggests that it does not anticipate losing much money via the guarantee. All fees and charges will be refunded and the current market value of the pension transferred to

another provider. Many other poli-People have been cies have a first two The years. pler pension product will be available direct by

telephone

frightened off after publicity on mis-selling of personal pension plans

of BAT Industries drive to increase its share of the financial services market. BAT may demerge its financial services division and is believed to have discussed selling part of it to Commercial Union, the composite insurer.

Virgin Direct, the financial services arm of Richard Branson's Virgin empire. which also sells personal pensions by telephone, dismissed

the policy as "a gimmick".

Like Virgin's personal pen-sion. Eagle Star charges a £2 monthly fee and a 1 per cent armual management fee. Unlike the majority of personal pension plans, there is no bidoffer spread on units bought and no imital charge (known in the industry as the allocation rate for either plan.

Virgin entered the personal pensions market last November, saying consumers mis-trusted the life insurance industry and claiming its simple products with transparent charges would revolutionise the market. Its pension fund, like its personal equity plan, aims to track the FT-SE All-Share index.

Certainly many consumers are still reluctant to commit themselves to such a longterm financial plan and have been frightened by publicity over mis-selling of personal pensions in the 1980s. Martin Campbell, Virgin's product development manager, said he did not believe a two-year refund was necessary. "People have a cooling-off period if they wish to change their mind," he said. But he welcomed Eagle Star's attempts to clarify the pensions complex charging structures.

The lack of decent products from the pensions industry is a bit of a disgrace. A lot of people have let their pension lapse in the past because they bought it under pressure and they might not have fully

on. Some of ered that they

cial magazine Money Marketing, Eagle Star's with-profits fund is currently languishing at the bottom of the performance table. In the five years to April 1996, the most recent performance information, Eagle Star came 29th out of 30 companies for a man aged 60 paying premiums of £50 a month. The managed (unitlinked) fund came 15th out of 43 companies for the five years to July 1996 for a male aged 60 paying £50 a month. The best performing man-aged fund was Skandia Life,

and CIS the best with-profits A recent report by Which? the magazine of the Consumers' Association, said most personal pension plans were rip-off because of high charges. But independent financial advisers say some plans with low charges still trail those with big set-up fees because of poor performance.

#### WHAT EVERYONE OUGHT TO KNOW BEFORE INVESTING IN A PEP...

HEN every High Street Bank. Investment Company, and a hundred other institutions seem to be offering financial products of every kind. and when one of the most popular of those is the Personal Equity Plan or PEP, it's worth taking a brief look at the basics of saving your money-and how a PEP might or might not benefit you as an investor.

When you are planning an investment you need to think about two things

#### FIRSTIA:

"Why you are exceeding your money?"

"How long would you like to invest YOUR MOREY POP."

For example, if you are saying money as a secure uge of dealing with unexpected outgoings titlat framy day to you are probably better off considering a traditional bank or building society high

Likewise, if you are saving up for a single major purchase, such as a car, or improvements to your home, once again a traditional bank or building society high interest account may be the best option

There are no aurprose hard but most people do Insured, have the his and established him, over the langer term, they can benefit from sock market environment. Because in is a fact than it of the back Central American programme have been better

ther thear houses that was people really understand when they are investige in - and that s a road, also lead the more in and more imposal. more on Which their souther and the pills one here in planation of table - plenut gones what is

#### WHY INVESTINITHE STOCK MARKETS

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#### DOES SUCCESS BUT IL MONEY?

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Naturally these companies that concrete the most specialists profit late often these than take the most risks And of poors, specialishe analysis ferning can be garned by producing the new erent business and one little quantities, the revers lei ber happmach

#### DON'T PUT ALL YOUR EGGS

While no penisone the need to spread the tisks, must ntormation that would enable them to decide which company or range of companies will offer the best

Which is who they approach organisations such as Legal & General Investment Management, and when they do make such an approach they are presented with a straightforward choice

#### THE FUND MANAGER ROUTE

A fund manager is someone who aims to select shares that he believes will rise in value more and more consistently-

Before you consider a PEP that might be managed actively by a fund manager, it max be useful to know more about the environment within which tund managers work-and about the basis upon which they make their decisions

Assessing, as fund managers do, the way in which the market moves, it's important to look a buth more closely must the factors that influence these share measurements

#### SO, WHAT MAKES A SHARE PRICE MOVE?

The important charges of the configurational popular all processings for gentlem and a more all chansenion. Who is need, trace a line became a safety

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What the make a that we want of the persons security for \$100 and interest

So by Europe a fine mirror to the ording on because the period of the resolution of the

Questionly in reference the number of the many of Soft 120 2 these gradues personnes is their the

It is extremely unusual that any one fund manage can regularly outperform the average performance of the market as a whole

> WHY DON'T FUND MANAGERS ALWAYS OUTPERFORM THE MARKET?

in a norshell, in order to actions

market that example, sphall companies and a

Even the best fund manager cannot provok a good return if his market sector is underperforming in compansion with other market sectors

#### FOR EXAMPLE...

So, if you have selected a fund which myests in smaller companies, you must accept that the fund manager is only allowed to invest in smaller companies and must do so through that and then

It is therefore pay investment decision as to whither you want to be in that part of the market or nor

The honolit has you as an investor is that Inbeing whothe about the area of the market and the shares in which you invest your mores, you can achieve returns that are higher than the

But of course, what insectors must remember, to that making these selective decisions means that you the investor are exposing sourself to begin out-

#### FINE!

It is have the capital security to be able to shrite at the risk one should have no quains about this torm of work market investment

However it con are looking for greater security, et man by ach mable to consider.

#### THE TRACKER ROUTE

In contrast to a fund manager, who seeks to select shares that will outperform the market, a tracker fund provides a return in the widows was market a countries.

It does this by investing in all the companies in the speck market - or a specialistic until of those companies.

By investing in this was, the investor avaids subjective judgement

And there are practical records to mad the Appeared with final managers

#### TRACKING THE FTSE ALL-SHARE INDEX...

The performance of the stock market is measured beon indicate the fact of the contract may support that performance is the LTM, All-State Loave

The index is ad plan USC combining the price mesonants of all the dates hand on the handon Stock I change on proportion to the same of the army attention of the property of

In the wer, the maximum it a large company during the hard proportionedly larger energ on the more going on the males than that of a

tunk have been tound to provide performance constructs above the majority of other hads

#### AN IMPORTANT COST CONSIDERATION ...

Obsourds, because a tracker took doesn't insolve the espense of obstining destiled information on the anies in which it invests, at the expense of of managers on make decisions based upon that information and analysis, over its accommental bear.

on after the deduction of fund manager costs A tracker fund will typically like an animal management charge of between 6.5 and 1% - whereas mor actively immered finish will deduct clusters of ferneen Land 1977

The smal seem that of they related there's are were the pairs, agreemently affect returns

As the trader heads will have, by definition, were similar performance therains buck follow the sumindex), the main differentiator will be out as expressed in charge. Therefore, the fund wate the honer charges mould be expected to puts on the summer to the mester

#### WHAT DOES IT.

#### ALL MEAN?

Quete sample, now, the investor, need to consider, as an mentioned at the beginning of this article, the reason, for your investment and what you

It a PFP investment is the right choice for year, the two most popular options are can acrossly managed food or an index-tracking food

An actively managed total can provide a neturn or excess of the market but carries with it the attendare riche accessant untle Gleenig och thice shins which the bond manager believes will convertions the market

A tracker fund makes no attempt to conjectorio the market but provides a matern of the week

#### DECISION TIME...

there the do note that their the investor is been ten the triable above average performance as an unles-

against the more volume but paramally more meanthing performance of an actuarly managed land.

for more people that is not a deficult decrease An independent find is the liquid chare for cuber the first-time average or as the copy of a larger portholin. A rively managed hands can then be used in sidition to my and give the merall performance a front. This is the way main Large incoments turals well as person funds operate, using money and minute board exposure to a marker via the indexrealisting final, while making hours into specific artist of victors car actively managed hand

Ar hope that the burt discussion of PEP assistment has proved at use-and should we be able to other year turther explanation, please don't in atau to teleplane us free un usun 116622. A member at mar-Legal & tricuelle, propositional ream will be more than happy to help General with your enquey. Ref & IDLIN

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Essential reading for homeowners

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Take a close look

at your annual

statement because it could prove

to be a rewarding

experience, says Sara McConnell

Millions of homeown-ers will be receiving their annual mortgage statements over the next few weeks as building societies start a new financial year. Many will give the statement no more than a fleeting glance before tucking it away in a

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However, two Weekend Money readers who did check their statement have just been refunded a total of £4,000 by the Nationwide Building Society in wrongly charged buildings insurance premiums.
After the intervention of The Times this week; the Nationwide agreed to pay compensation of £500 for costs, loss of interest and inconvenience on top of the £3,500 in wrongly debited premiums it had already refunded.

Other costly mistakes are almost certainly waiting to be discovered by those who resolve to sit down and check their statements as a new

mortgage year starts.

Nationwide admitted that it had wrongly set up buildings insurance in 1991 for Radhika Holmström and Paul Anderson when they bought their flat in south London. The couple's solicitor, who was also acting for the Nationwide, had told the society that buildings insurance was arranged by the freeholder of the block containing their leasehold flat. This is common practice in lessehold



Just her cup of tea: Radhika Holmström checked her tatement and gained a £4,000 refund from Nationwide

and set up insurance. The Nationwide deducted premi-ums for four years before the

mistake was discovered. Ms Holmström admitted that she should have checked the annual mortgage statements on which the premiums appeared. However, she was angry that once the mistake was discovered, the Nationwide took seven months to sort

blocks. However, the society out its error. Its administrative made an administrative error mistakes included sending out mistakes included sending out identical forms to be filled in as soon as the couple returned a completed first set.

Buildings insurance will not be included on mortgage statements unless it is organised by the lender. So check if you see premiums have been deducted and you have insurance organised elsewhere or by someone else. However, insurance is not always included on

mortgage statements when provided by the lender. The Abbey National deliberately keeps records of premiums separately so that it can keep

Other potential problem ar-

Interest rates. The main part of the mortgage statement shows what interest you have paid on your loan during the year, and at what rate. Make sure you are paying the right rate for your level of loan because some lenders charge different rates depending on how much you originally borrowed. If you have since paid off some of your loan, you should still be paying the rate for the original level. Check you have been receiving fixed rates or discounts for the period you expected.

If you have a repayment loan, your outstanding debt at the end of the year should be lower than the debt at the beginning. If you have an endowment, pension, Pep or interest-only loan, the debt will be about the same unless you have paid off some of your

■ Tax relief on mortgage interest. This is calculated by the lender and should be included in the amount of interest you are paying. You are allowed tax relief at 15 per cent on the first £30,000 of interest. You are only allowed relief on your principal residence, so if you have more than one property you should be getting relief on only one. The only time you can get Miras on more than one property is if you can show you are trying to sell one of them, in which case you can get relief for however long it akes to sell.

Capital repayments. If you have repaid some of your mortgage in the past year, check that your interest has been recalculated to take it into account. Lenders distinguish setween a part-repayment, where you pay off a lump sum (often a minimum of £500) and overpayments. Most major lenders will now credit partrepayments immediately, as long as you explain that the payment is to reduce your

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Adam Jones asks whether it is worth supporting an investment fund devoted to our national game

# Football crazy, or on to a winner?

i wasn't the best week to launch a fund investing in football clubs, especially if you'd hoped to North East.

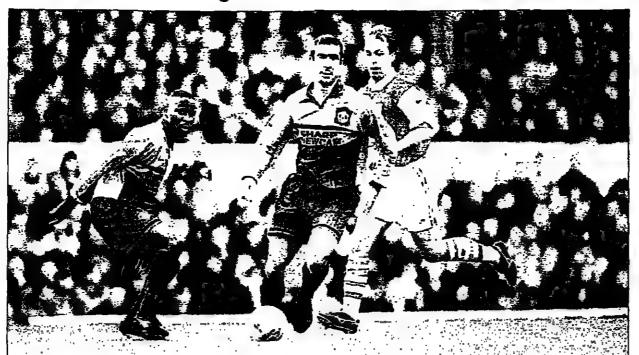
Kevin Keegan's unexpected resignation from Newcastle United was blamed on bankers who wanted the unsettled manager to leave before the club floated. Fans were left to question whether the increasingly close relationship between football and the stock market was an entirely good thing - just as the Singer & Friedlander Football Fund was being unveiled.

The fund is the first to devote itself to football clubs and associated companies. such as kit manufacturers and building firms involved in

Momentum launched its Premier Sports fund eight months ago, investing in a broad range of sporting stocks, it has grown by 60 per

In addition to being more specific, the Football Fund says it is going to be much larger, with £30 million hoped for initially. It will have a highprofile consultant in the form f Alan Hansen, the former Liverpool player and current Match of the Day analyst. who will advise on a team's

prospects on the pitch. It is also among the first



What's in a name: the departure of key personnel, such as Manchester United's Eric Cantona, could affect a club's shares

wave of open-ended investment company funds - a variation on unit trusts with a single price for buying and selling, introduced this month.

In the light of the Keegan resignation. Tony Fraher, chief executive of Singer & Friedlander Investment Funds, denied that football clubs were more vulnerable

than other companies to the departure of key personnel, saying: "Newcastle United is still there as a solid business." But there remains another

Alternative Investment Mar-

be problematic. Faced with a anxiety about pooled investfund manager who has to ment in football. Some club unload some of his newly shares trade on the main collected millions into a narrow market, notably Manchester sector, prices could be inflated. The Football Fund claims it United. Others trade on the

ket or on a matched bargain

basis on Ofex. These include

Arsenal and Liverpool. Avail-

will get around this by buying

ability of the Ofex shares could themselves if they want indirect exposure to the sector. The

reserve stock from newly floated clubs. Shares on the periphery of the football sector are another solution - these will be the first bought by the fund. The aim is to have 45 to 55 per cent in UK clubs eventually. But investors must ask

recent performance of con-

that many Celtic shares, so prices jumps are magnified. Investors must also consider whether the huge growth in

struction company shares will not have matched that of the

clubs themselves. For in-stance, £L,000 invested in Celt-ic at the start of 1996 would

have grown to £5,877 by the

end of the year. There aren't

chib shares will continue. The City has woken up to football. Aithough there is still growth potential, with full pay-perview TV yet to be introduced and many more chibs intend. and many more clubs intend-ing to list, the most lucrative club — Manchester United is already out there.

Mr Fraher says the fund is not entering at the top of the market: "We're still at the ground floor level." However, inger & Friedlander's promotional literature lists certain clubs, such as Arsenal and Blackburn Rovers, as having an intention to be quoted on the main market, when there has been no such public

The minimum investment in the Football Fund is £1,000, with the option of a £50 per week savings scheme. An injrial charge of 4.5 per cent is levied, with an annual man-

gement fee of 1.5 per cent. The fund manager will be James Cotton, who runs the Singer & Friedlander smaller

# Housebuyers take heed of the great rate debate '

gage rates move this year? With the renewed movement in the housing market, this is a question new buyers have to address.

Is it best to lock into a fixed rate in anticipation of a rise? Mortgage costs are currently close to their lowest point in 30 years. Or is a variable-rate mortgage a better deal? They are generally less likely to penalise early redemption of the loan and have an obvious superiority if interest rates

Speculation about interest rates has a strong political flavour this year. The alleged danger of higher mortgage rates under a Labour government is at the heart of a Conservative advertising compaign. campaign. Its billboards claim New Labour, new

mortgage risk". And in one of five campaign pledges made at the end of 1996, John Major said the Conservá-

tive Party

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Demand for fixed rates suggests borrowers are not particularly worried about the next five years

mortgage lowest level in 30 years. However, kneejerk anxiety about a

Interest rates are likely to go up, whichever party is in power, to keep inflation in check during any recovery in consumer spending. The election could be a red herring beside this consideration.

Jonathan Loynes, an economist at HSBC Markets, says: "If you had no general elec-tion this year, I wouldn't have thought the consensus fore-City would be that different" That consensus - an aver-

age of economists' predictions is that the base rate in the fourth quarter of 1997 will be 7:16 per cent, compared with a current rate of 6 per cent. A new set of predictions to be canvassed later this month are likely to be a little larger, but the auticinated rise should still be relatively modest. Sterling futures — financial instruments traded on an

anticipated future value of the pound — are currently being priced on the assumption that three month interest rates (not the same as the base rate) will also be about 1 per cent more in December.

For borrowers at the end of the financial food chain, the rise could be broadly similar.

house standard variable rates above the base level. At the moment, they typically range from about 6.3 per cent to about 7.5 per cent. The most popular standard variable rate tends to be 7.25 per cent;

Using the consensus predic tion, borrowers could-expect to pay about 1 per cent more on their mortgages. That means a £37.92 monthly increase on a typical Nation-wide interest-only £50,000

mortgage.
The City predictions on which the consensus figure is based will have taken into account any possible changes of government. It is broadly assumed that Labour will follow the cautious, anti-inflationary economics pursued by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancel-lor. This explains why the City did not allow the "New Labour, new mortgage risk school of thought to inflate its expectations of the coming

gestion that Labour will hold a Budatter the

mand for fixed-rate mortgages suggests that borrowers are not particularly worried about the next five years, the period which would encompass the first term of a Labour

government. Simon Tyler, of Chase de Vere, the mortgage broker, says the greatest demand is for two-year fixed terms. The cost of taking one out has risen accordingly. Five-year fixed rates, however, have decreased in cost because of weaker demand

Well before the election, Mr Clarke will be facing pressure to raise interest rates. The change could come as early as January 15, when he meets Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England. Mr George made it clear at their last meeting that he wanted a rate in excess of 6 per cent.

It is conceivable that Mr

Clarke could delay an increase until February, citing the strength of sterling as a counterbalance to the inflationary threat provided by consumer recovery. But delay- 🏩 ing a rate rise until two months or so before an election could work against the Government. Political expediency may rule out such a

**ADAM JONES** 

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HIGH NEOMER

Caroline Merrell reports on how corporate bond Peps have fared

of the great High yield — high cost



Hopes dashed: Corporate bond Peps were launched as ideal investments for the elderly, but yields have since fallen

orporate bond personal equity plans were launched in a blaze of publicity 18 months ago. They were sold as being the ideal investment for the elderly, as they offered a way of giving high tax-free income, with some possibility of capital growth, in a market where building society returns were ever

However, 18 months after their unveiling, do they live up to the hype? At launch many were predicting they could offer yields of up to 9 per cent - representing extra annual tax-free income of about £540, or more than a £1,000 if a husband and wife invested the maximum allowed under the Pep rules. An extra £1,000 a year in tax-free income would be an

attractive prospect for many pensioners. The amount yielded by corporate bond Peps is now considerably lower than was at first predicted. The yield on corporate bonds, preference shares, convertibles. and gilts - all of which are used by the. managers of corporate bonds — are directly linked to interest rates. If interest.

Over the past 18 months interest rates have fallen, so yields have fallen. According to the January issue of Money Management, yields on corporate bond

Peps now stand at between 5 and 9 per cent, with most about 7.5 per cent. In most cases, the level of income paid by the Pep will be directly related to the level of risk. Money Management found that two of the highest yielding Peps are offered by Abtrust and Henderson - both have yields of 9 per cent.

However, these high yields are not generated by corporate bonds, despite the name of the product, but instead are generated by preference or convertible shares, which are a higher-risk investment than corporate bonds.

sum of \$1,000 invested in the Abtrust Pep five years ago would now be worth \$2,084, including the income the same amount invested in the Henderson Pep would now be worth £1,747. The total income paid by both Pens on £1,000 over the five-year period would be £514 and £586 respectively.

Over the same period, Guinness

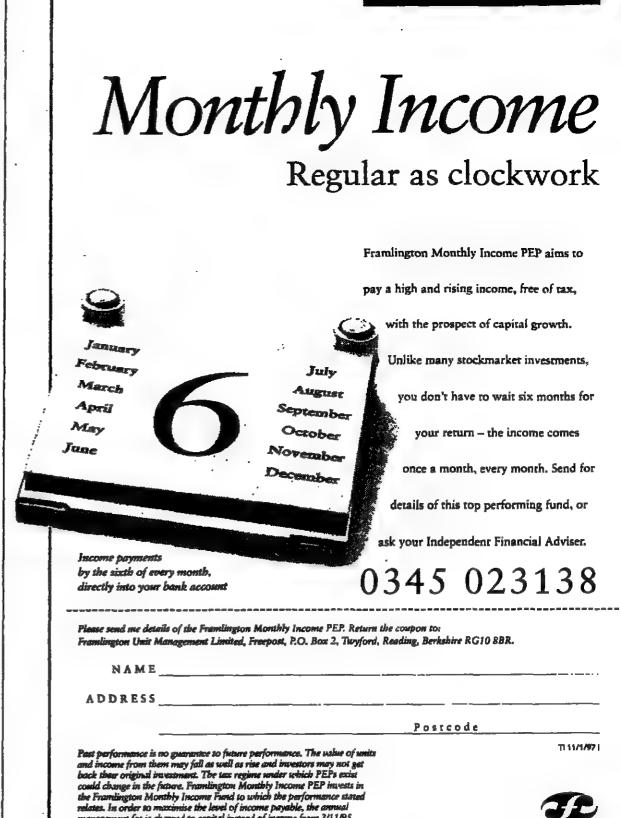
Flight's Corporate Bond Pep, as the name suggests, is entirely invested in corporate honds. Over five years, it would have paid out a total of £403 in income. according to the survey - considerably less than the other two Pens.

Money Management ranked the more

recent corporate bond Pep launches according to income generated. Over the past 12 months, of the newer entrants to the market, the highest income was paid by the Pembroke High Income fund. It generated £93 of income on an investment of £1,000 — again the yield was cherated by the Pep's high predominance of convertible shares. The lowest income was generated by the Hambros High Provider Pep and the Colonial High Income Pep, both with £53 of income over the year per £1,000 invested.

Savers shopping round for a corporate bond Pep should pay special attention to from where the charges are deducted. Most of the Pep providers will take the charges from the income provided, while some will take it from the capital generated. If high income is a priority, with return of capital less of a priority, then Peps from Pembroke. Abtrust and and Britannia could be considered.

However, advisers say investors must look at the effect of charges over a long period. The highest charging managers include Singer & Friedlander, Edinburgh Fund Managers and Pembroke, while the lowest-charging groups include Virg-in, Sun Alliance and Guinness Flight.



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## Caroline Merrell looks at a new season of offerings from fund managers

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# Take a plunge into Peps

season ends, the personal equity plan season begins. Already two of the UK's biggest fund managers have unveiled their annual Pep offerings. The new schemes aim to attract millions of pounds in what many will believe could be a bumper Pep year. More people than usual may take the plunge in to personal equity plans because of the proximity of the election. A Labour government may not be as generous in the tax breaks for Peps as

past Tory governments. Among those first off the blocks was Schroders Investment Management. The investment house is offering two options for its investors. One will aim to give investors high income, while the other will concentrate on capital growth.

The growth Pep will invest in three unit trusts which each have slightly different investment philosphies. The three funds are the Schroder Small-

pean Smaller Companies fund and the Schroder Pacific Growth trust - £6,000 invested in a Pep five years ago would now be worth around

£14.500. The income Pep is aimed at investors who are concerned about increasing expenses as they get older. According to Micropal, the statistics company, if savers had put £6,000 in the plan ten years ago, the starting income would have begun at £267 and risen to £665 by year ten.

Jason Holland, of Best Investment, said he thought that packaging the unit trusts together was a good idea. He said he believed the three trusts selected would be growth areas next year. He added: "We favour smaller companies, Europe and Asia

and the Pacific Basin." Minimum investment in the income Pep is £3,000, and in the growth Pep it is £6,000 - £2,250 of which is invested in

funds, while the remaining £1.500 is invested in the Pacific Growth fund. The initial charge on both Peps is 3.25 per cent, while the annual charges: on the growth Pep are 1.5 per cent on the two smaller companies' trusts and 1.25 per cent on the Schroder Pacific Growth fund. The annual

charge on the income fund is

1.25 per cent. Perpetual, another leading investment house, also revealed its Pep offering this week. The World Income Pep. will invest in a wide range of international equities and will aim to generate an income of 4 per cent... Minimum investment will be £500. The fund will also be available for monthly investments as low as

£20 per month. Mr Holland said: though the Perpetual's performance dropped off at the beginning of last year, it has now shown some signs of

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## Gold investments have lost their shine

old has certainly lost its allure. Over the past year, the price has fallen by around 15 per cent, from a peak of \$417 per ounce to \$355 (Caroline

Merrell writes).
The price fall has been reflected in falls in gold min-ing shares and in the funds that invest in these shares. For instance, a £100 investment in the £200 million Mercury Gold & General at the beginning of last year would now be worth only £84. Graham Birch, the manager

of the fund, said the price of gold had peaked earlier in 1996, but since then had He said: "Gold does not behave like other commodities. When the price falls, those that are short on gold buy up stock.
When it rises, those who hold too much sell."

At the beginning of last year. analysts predicted that the price of gold and other inetals in the Ear East. Grown wealth in China, Korea, Tai wan and the Philippines was expected to increase demand for gold and, therefore, the

However, Mr Birch said other forces had come in to play during the year. "Manyof the central banks have stores of gold," he said.
"When countries get poorer they tend to sell off their gold

also being selling off gold to try to satisfy the Maastrict treaty by cutting debts. Russia and Canada sold off gold last

The value of shares in goldmines will fall to a much greater extent than the gold price itself. Mr Birch said: Every 10 per cent fall in the gold price will produce a 30 per cent fall in the shares, and

over 85 per cent of the fund is invested in gold shares." Mr Birch said that investment in a gold fund is very high-risk. "A gold fund should only comprise about 2.5 per cent of anyone's portfo-lio." He said that the latest figures showed that demand for gold was rising which could push up the price.

price was expected to rise.

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ose money rather than make money. The Equitable Life's With Profits Bond reduces the risk. If you have £500 or more to invest, you can place it in a managed fund of assets comprising equities, properties and ixed interest securities.

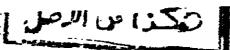
Whatever future market conditions are like, we guarantee that at the fifth and subsequent anniversaries you can encash the bond for at least the original value of the contractual benefits.

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## **WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS**

# Financial services reforms are overdue

From Mr J. H. Chapman Sir. May 1 suggest that reform of financial services practices should be a priority for 1997?

. At the national level, an efficient and trusted savings and investment industry should be a key element in our long-term growth and prosperity. At the personal level, individuals should be able to choose good value products with the confidence that they will be treated fairly.

We are some way from such national and personal goals. For illustration, I have set out several shortcomings in our dominant personal finance industry, life insurance and pensions.

About £5 billion a year, or two thirds of the annual costs of this industry, goes in acquisition expenses - in commissions and advertising and other spend to persuade people to buy these products. inevitably such costs make the value of many products questionable or indisputably

Costs vary greatly between. companies, and charges to consumers within policies then also vary greatly. Companies adopt various ruses to hide high charges. There is widespread manipulation of charges and surrender penalties to project or achieve high maturity payouts and the illusion of good value.

But with the greater majority of policies not going to maturity the spotlight should be on early and mid-way surrender or transfer values, as well as maturity values: A further important feature is the striking differ-

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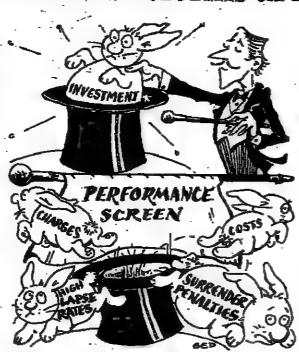
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ences in the incidence of charges between companies. Some companies impose their charges gradually, while others make their profits as quickly as possible through high early charges and surrender penalties. The resulting low early surrender values are simply pitfalls for

an unwary populace. Where such pitfall products are sold with high lapse rates, many and probably most of policyholders so trapped actually lose money by taking out their pension plans. For them the net result is simply a transfer of money to an insurance company and to the sales people who persuaded them to buy.

The role of investment

paraded to obscure the key messages about charges and pitfall products. But no one can predict which investment team will outperform the others over the next five years, let alone over 25 years. Moreover, if a high charge company is to overcome its charging handicap, it may have to achieve an investment performance I per cent a year, or even 2 per cent a year, better than lower charge competitors. Over 25 years, such a superior investment performance is highly

performance is sometimes

improhable. At the Office of Fair Trading, I drafted successive reports — Fair Trading and Life Insurance, The Surren-

To assert, as does Mr Jones.

that the pension provider pays

der Values of Life Insurance Policies. Mortgage Repay-ment Methods and Health Insurance. Such reports have led to some improvements. perhaps notably the disclosure of the effects of charges. But the messages from such disclosure have yet to get through to consumers. Con-sequently, the questionable or damaging practices of this industry have changed little.

Unlike other sectors investigated, there appears to be a belief that the industry is so strong and practices so well entrenched that it can "tough out"any criticisms. There are excellent individuals and companies who readily distance themselves from malpractices. Overall, however, any reformist lobby among the companies is invisible or non-costent. Indeed progress towards

improvements are snail-like with PIA reports showing little or no change in persistency rates, and with a flow of revelations about such matters as extra charges that are heaped on policies when the inflow of premiums is interrupted.

Widespread reforms are needed, including the devel-opments of a rating system. warnings about pitfall producis, more openness about the operations of with-profits policies, and an overhaul of the description and links of financial advisers. Who will bring about the

reforms necessary - Government, the regulators, or the media? Yours faithfully JOHN CHAPMAN, 8 Makepeace Avenue,

erred to above appeared, you

published tables showing that

a man aged 65 could secure a

else on payments required under self-assessment.

Clearly he is in receipt of is going to be less.

There is one concession for the 1996-97 payments on account where assessments on untaxed interest or property income for 1995-96 were finalised between June 1 and November 1 1996, the payments on account are split in two. This concession is because of a computer programming error. The Inland Revenue is still changing the rules as it finds the practical problems have not been thought through and Mr Read's final paragraph is correct.

I have tried telephoning the Revenue this year to find that most of them are still enjoying a winter break and with the most important change ever in taxation about to bite, they remain unavailable to assist.

nublic is not going to cope Yours fuithfully. HUGH CARTWRIGHT, 22 Shrewsbury Mews.

## You won't need a tax accountant . . .

From Ms S. Singleton Sir, I read Denis Fuller's letter (Self-assessment shock awaits the complacent. December 141 on Anne Ashworth's self-assessment article with a wry

smile. Yes, self-assessment will involve some additional burden on taxpayers, but no taxpayer will have to calculate their own tax bills provided they submit their returns in time.

Some accountants misleadingly indicate otherwise. Those of us who quite competently complete our tax returns without paying an accountant a penny will, largely, be perfectly competent to continue to do so, with assistance from the Inland Revenue. whose helpful information to 67 Brooke Avenue. date is much appreciated. Many of us already keep full

records of expenses for tax

purposes and will find no difficulty in ensuring we receive the correct forms in due course. Do not be scared into engaging an accountant unnecessarily. Yours faithfully, SUSAN SINGLETON, Singletons Solicitors. Eagle House,

Harrow.

PRES OF BASIC RATE TAX OVER 6 YEARS maior Spancial Institution inmehing a new issue of their ingely successful High Income found with a monthly income required for full capital return "FURST COME, FIRST SERVED"

01275 821177 (24 brs) RI TEMPLE PLC

## ... Oh yes you will

From Mr H. Carneright Sir, Someone should advise Mr Richard Read (Self-assessment of tax and the issue of statements of accounts, Weekend Money Letters, January 4) and for that matter everyone

untaxed income and/or property income. Before self-assessment, the tax on this income was due in one instalment on January I during the tax year based on income received in the previous tax year. The same basis applies for the transitional year 1996-97 except the full tax based on the previous year is owing by January 31, a delay of 30 days. These payments on account will be split on a 50:50 basis for 1997-98 onwards. Without going into fine detail, you can reduce interim payments for 1996-97 if your actual liability

I am afraid that the general

with self-assessment and will have to employ accountants.

## THE VALUE BOND PEP Better value all round

for tax-free income.

Corporate	IBCA AA Credit Rofing	Annual Mgmt Charge	Initial ( Charge	Exit Charge	Redemption Yield	Running Yield
-	YES	0.65%	MIL	NO	7.01%	7.95%
The Park No.	No	0.70%	NEE	NO	6.95%	7.47%
	No	0.70%	NE.	NO	7.A7%	7,51%
346	NO	1.00%	NE.	YES	7.01%	7,30%
	NO	1,00%	3,25%	NO	7.78%*	7.78%
	NO	0.75%	3.25%	ю	7.91%	7.74%

yields estimated gross as at 2.1.97 and redunption yields are latest at yields not available

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deduction of charges and expenses means you may not get back the amount you invested. Tax benefits detailed are those currently applicable and will vary from one investor to another and may charge in the future. For you protection, talephone calls may be recorded, based by Guinness Flight Fund Menagers Limited, regulated by IMPC.

## Annuities do repay capital — through higher returns

From Mr R.H. Ranson Sir. Recent correspondence on "the annuity iniquity", particularly Mr S.C. Jones's letter,

reveals a misunderstanding

of how annuities work. When a life office sells a block of annuities it calculates the amount payable so that, overall, the interest and capital will be paid back over the lifetimes of the annuitants concerned. If each annuitant lived for precisely the number of vears expected at outset, then each annuitant would receive

back his or her decopurchase; price together with interest. In practice, of course, some: will die early while others will live longer than expected. The

capital not paid out to those long that might be, is dying early is used to maintain payments to those fortunate enought to live to an advanced age. That is the insurance principle on which annuities are founded and is how the security of knowing that one will receive an income throughout life, no matter how

I Letters to the Weekend Money section are welcomed, but The Times regrets that it cannot give individual replice or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for

the advice or statements

provided.

given in these columns and it must be emphasised that independent professional advice should always be sought on investment matters. Letters to the Weekend Money section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5082.

pension annuity of about 11 per cent p.a. of the purchase out only the interest and retains all the capital is simply price. Your same issue showed that someone buying wrong and that can be easily long-term gilts would secure a verified by your readers. On page 42 of your November 30 issue, in which the letters refreturn of about 7½ per cent p.a. The extra return of 312 per cent p.a. under the annuity represents the paying back of capital described above. Yours faithfully, R. RANSON

(Managing Director and Actuary). The Equitable Life Assurance Society, Walton Street. Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Chepstow Road, W2.

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	£5	00	£5,	000	£10,000		£25,000		
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Bank of Scotland Banking Direct Instant Access Savings Account	4,85%	4.75%	5.23%	5.25%	5.90%	5.75%	5.60%	5.75%	
Abbey National Investment (90 Day Notice)	3,05%	3.05%	3.30%	3.30%	3.95%	3.95%	4.50%	4.50%	
Hallfax Solid Gold (90 Day Notice)	3,00%	3.00%	3.25%	3.25%	4.00%	4.00%	4.50%	4.50%	
Woolwich Premier 90 (90 Day Notice)	N/A	N/A	3.50%	3.50%	4,20%	4.20%	4.80%	4.80%	

You don't have to tie up your savings for 90 days to earn a higher rate of interest. Quite the reverse, as a glance at the table above

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comfort of your own home, 24 hours a day, 365

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Ordinary A/c1 1.50 1.20 0.90 10-10,000\*\*
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43rd Issue Cert1\* 5.35 100-10,000 8day
Children's Bond1\* 6.75
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Capital Bonds 5.65 5.32 3.99 100-250,000 8day 0645 645000 9th Index Linksdth 2.50 Pansins Bond 53 a 7.00 5.60 4.20 500-50,000 60day 0645 645000

\* Seat ETO (ET+40 jt) of est text free, inst slocs for up to E+100 \* Additional hidge up to E20,000 for requested proceeds. \* (Tax free \*\* "Rates gross and vible «Guaranteed when held for 5 years \*0.2% not borus for E20,000 + %+100,000 ft in addition to S1 and S2 holdings \* Taxable but oracl in AA \* E500-100,000 earn higher rates, \*\* Tiened rates 10,000.

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## THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

## Better rates for Portman savers

Portman Building Society is boosting its savings of more than £10,000, but less than £100,000, in an Instant Direct count holders with balances of at least £100 will enjoy an improved return of 4.7 per cent gross. Customers with a Monthly Interest Account will 6.05 per cent for £10,000 or more, and 6.15 per cent for £50,000 or more. also benefit from higher rates: 2.95 per cent gross on balances between £2,500 and £4,999. 3.95 per cent gross between £5,000 and £9,999, and 5.50 per cent gross on holdings of £20,000 and above. Call 0800 663663 for more information.

■ The Alliance & Leicester Building Society has also announced higher investment rates on its Prime 90 Account, Midas Account and Tessa (Issue 2). For customers with a Prime 90 Account of more than £100,000, the gross annual return has increased from 5.75 per cent to 6 per cent, and the gross monthly return is now 5.85 per cent. The rate for Midas Accounts with more than £10,000 is 3.05 per cent, and 3.75 per cent for accounts of £50.000 or more. For those with a Tessa

(Issue 2) of at least £9,000, the new gross annual return is 6.6 per cent and monthly return is 6.4 per cent, an increase of 0.25 per cent.

Investment (£)

10,000 20,000 50,000

1,000 3,000

1.000

3,000

1 Year

2 Years

3 Years

4 Years

**GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS** 

ANNUAL INCOME Rates as at January 9, 1997

Monday. Instant Access Ac- Postal Investment Account. new higher annual rates are

> Northern Rock Building Society will introduce two new postal savings accounts on January 17 — Select Instant and Select 60 - paying up to 7.05 per cent gross. Both are share accounts. Existing share account holders who transfer their savings will still be entitled to benefits if the society proceeds with its pro-posed conversion.

The launch of the new open-ended investment com-pany (OEIC), has prompted the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds to produce a factsheet that explains the concept of pooled invest-ment It discusses how OEICs fit into the investment fund landscape by comparing OEICs with unit trusts and investment trusts.

Copies of the factsheet are available free by calling 0181 207 1361.

LIZANNE ROSE

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS -	Account	Notice of team	Deposit	Rate	Imbres pak
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Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500	Direct Postel	Postel	£5,000	5.75	Y
Northam Rock BS 0500 505000	Select Inst	Postal	25,000	6.25	. Yi
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NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account ,	of term	Deposit	Rate	pai
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First National BS 01232 314050	High Yield	30 day	225,000	6.45	Y
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Select 60	60 day p	. 000,012	6.50	Y
Leeds & Holbeck BS 0113 2257777	Postal Bonus	30.4.98p	£10,000	7.00	ON
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FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	pai
Sun Benking Corp 01438 744505	Fixed Rule	5 уеаг	\$8,575	7.50	F/Y
Nat/West Bank 0800 200400	Fixed Rate	5 year	25,000	7.45	F/YI
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 6260879	Premier Tessa	5 year	29,000	7.20	- Y
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721	min Bester	5 year	£1.000	7.00	·

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest , per month	APR%	Fee per
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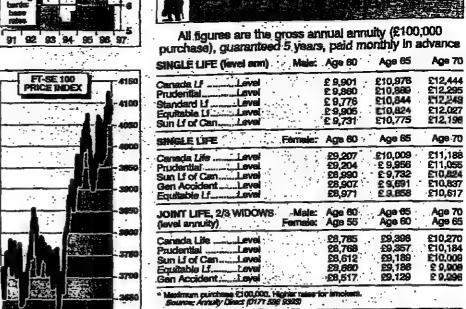
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Complied by: Lizanne Rose



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Northern Rock BS 0345 421421

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litax	12.000%	130,83	8,906	100.28	50,000	01734 510100				3% disc-6 mth
ilax	13.625%	150.52	9,052	100.00	50,000	Widland	3.99	£100k+	- 80	3% discount for
eds & Holback	13.375%	144.28	8.996	100.23	1,000	0600 494299		44		for 1 year
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Colonia Expension   Tele 20   794.00   0.100	Managed Bowley   1031-45   1011.30   - 1.20       Prop Brand Acc   47-48   501.00   - 103.00       Ret, Bornd Acc   47-48   501.00   - 103.00       Ret, Bornd Acc   47-48   501.00   - 2.20       MGCH ASSURANCE   MCCH   103.00   - 0.20       MGCH ASSURANCE   MCCH   103.00   - 2.20       MGCH ASSURANCE   MCCH   103.00   - 2.20       MGCH ASSURANCE   MCCH   103.00       MCCH   ASSURANCE   MCCH   103.00       MCCH   ASSURANCE   204.00         MCCH   ASSURANCE   204.00         MCCH   ASSURANCE   204.00         MCCH   ASSURANCE   204.00
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Colonal Systems   Tac. 20   744.00   0.150	Managed Bonds   1034.05   101.10   1.10
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THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997

Our Economics Editor examines the theoretical battleground

# The big ideas

# **THEORIES**

The Holy Grail of economic policy is full employment with stable prices. But this central aim has been the only constant in a profession which excites passion and controversy, which has undergone violent U-turns in ap-proach and emphasis, but has not yet come up with a magic formula.

The weary British voter probably sees little real difference between the economic policies now espoused by Conservatives and new Labour's hopefuls. Perhaps, at the end of a century of economic experimentation; our main political perties have reached consensus on a shaky middle ground which recognises that no one theory of economic management has proved its supremacy. But the nuances of current debate still follow age-old battle

The two men whose presence looms largest are John Maynard Keynes and Milton Friedman. Unfair as it may be to their complex contributions to the art of economics — and nobody should regard it as a science — they have come to represent the opposite poles of interventionism and laisser faire which have always been, and remain, the quarrelsome spirits driving any discussion of how best to run the

■ John Mayaard Keynes single-handedly toppled the classical tradition of economics which reigned supreme in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Classical economists believed in the power of market forces, the self-correcting nature of the economy. In a downwrn, wages and interest rates would eventually fall to levels low enough for businessmen to invest again. Investment, in turn, would raise employment and incomes and the economy would expand again until rising prices brought about the next downturn.

But Keynes was writing and working in the postwar period, when unemployment never fell below 5 per cent. The economy did not seem to have the power to lift itself naturally out of prolonged depression. Keynes argued that leaving everything to market forces could lead to a downward spiral in demand and that unemployment could settle at-permanently high levels. Instead of relying on businessmen to turn on the economic taps, why not allow the Government to take on this role? The Government, he suggested, could actively stimulate demand by spending money on

tion respectable. But Alec Cairneress. head of the Government Economic Ser-





Giants of the 20th century: John Maynard Keynes, left, and Milton Friedman

vice from 1964 to 1969, defends him as the apostle of economic management, not economic planning. Keynes himself said: "The important thing for government is not to do things which individuals are doing already, and to do them a little better or a little worse, but to do those things which at present are not done at

Milton Friedman and his Chicago school of monetarists mounted the first serious challenge to Keynes, whose ideas held sway until the 1960s. Just as it is unjust to dismiss Keynes as an interventionist, it is inaccurate to describe monetarists as laisser faire.

The Monetarists wrought two great, related changes to economic thinking. They rejected management of demand through fiscal policy - stimulating demand by cutting taxes or increasing public spending to stimulate the economy, raising taxes and cutting spending to squeeze it. Instead, they argued for the supremacy of monetary policy — the control of the quantity of money in the economy. Fighting inflation was put at the forefront of economic policy. Controlling inflation could only be done by controlling

the money supply.

Monetarism certainly chimed in with a mood of disenchantment with govern-ment intervention and a rekindled desire for a greater reliance on market forces. But it was not an out-and-out repudiation of government intervention in the econopublic works and lowering interest rates.

Keynes's critics charged him with believing in budget deficits, of invading individual rights and liberates with feet momes supply, without outlawing it nomic interventionism of making min.

Towever, Index Marget Thatcher, momic interventionism of making min. monetarism reached an unbalanced apo-

laisser faire. Control of the money supply became the sole aim of policy. Using fiscal policy as a tool of economic management was ruled out, budgets were to be strictly balanced. The pursuit of full employment was simply dropped as a goal: in the early 1930s, there was no mention of unemploy-

ment in four successive Budget speeches. Armed with a radical programme of deregulation of industry and labour markets, the private sector was expected to unleash its own dynamism. Cairneross describes this as "extreme non-intervention" and comments: "What had happened by 1981 was tantamount to an abandonment of the entire tradition of postwar economic policy." Even Friedman criticised the 1981 Budget, which raised taxes in the teeth of the worst recession since the war, as unnecessarily

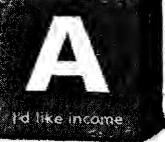
■ The new synthesis. Since the radicalism of the early Thatcher years, a pragmatic eclectism has returned to economic policy-making, but it arguably owes more to Friedman than Keynes. Monetary policy remains key, but it is accepted that fiscal policy can be used to blunt the edges. Conservatives and Labour both believe in budget balance but are prepared to sanction surpluses in good times and deficits in bad.

Fighting inflation remains paramount and both main parties are committed to an inflation target. But pursuit of higher employment has made a return to the political agenda. Market forces continue to be the main agent of change, but both parties are prepared to intervene in a limited way to make the market work

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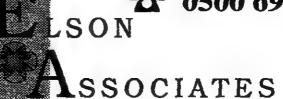
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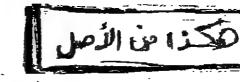
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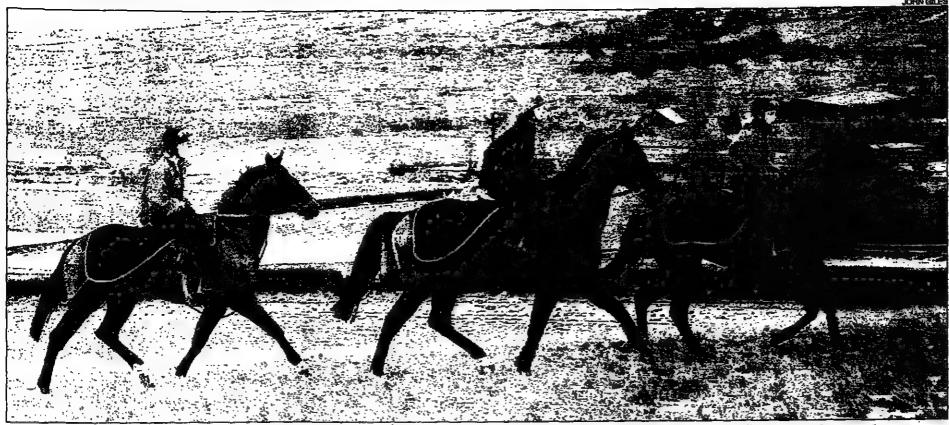
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				· contenting of the total
	(#2 <sup>1</sup> )			



## ll Society can peak in Ladbroke usually a sound jumper. On Ericsson Chase running King Of The Gales is the form horse and looks the proba-

BY OUR TRISH RACING CORRESPUNDENT

SEVEN British-trained runners tackle The Ladbroke, a handicap hurdle, at Leopardstown today but once more the odds look to be stacked in favour of the home team. Barnbrook Again was the last British winner of the race, ten years ago, and while Mary Reveley's three runners. headed by the unbeaten Penny A Day, will have their backers, the best value of the race may be Richard Dunwoody's mount. Hill Society.

Reveley certainly suspects that Penny A Day. Executive Design and Express Gift face a difficult task. "The Irish always have a few they've got ready and lurking in the handicap," Reveley said. "Ours are ready

with the weather. We are just hoping

Hill Society is hardly lurking in the handicap but, in a race that places a premium on early pace, he should be able to hold a good position throughout. A Curragh handicap winner over ten furlongs in August, Noel Meade's charge is a proven hurdler for whom the ground has come right.

Although well beaten by Theatreworld 12 days ago, he should improve for that run and represents better value than Khayrawani, who has failed on the big day in the past, and Family Way, who although a ten-year-old has won only one race.

Tony McCoy's mount, the well-backed Clifdon Fog, ran an eyecatching trial over course and distance at Christmas when staying on to be third to Legal And Tender.

Starting prices will be returned on the Leopardstown meeting this after-noon despite the likelihood of an oncourse bookmakers' strike. An "industry starting price" is to be generated from an analysis of bets struck in betting shops in Britain on the Leopardstown card, from which four races are being televised live.

but Clifdon Fog had won his maiden only two weeks previously. Centaur Express, Kairak, Palacegate King and Master Tribe are the other British representatives and the lastnamed may hold the best chance of

Charile Swan may find himself out of luck with King Of Kerry in the big

The dispute concerns starting-price shops at the track, which intend to take bets on the "home" racing. rather than just the "away" meetings. On-course bookmakers fear a loss of turnover. Tom Kelly, chairman of the Betting Office Licensees Association, said: This is a one-off. These are exceptional circumstances.

Idiots Venture in the Pierse Leopardstown Handicap (2.05). Swan has chosen him ahead of stable companion Royal Mountbrowne despite having been unscated from him last time out in the Ericsson Chase. That had been only idiots Venture's second race after a long absence through injury, but he was substantially backed to win and is

likely answer is Ultra Flutter, disappointing at Limerick last time but a good horse when allowed to race up with the pace.

Rosin The Bow is the most

ble danger, although Whale Of A

Knight's chance last time was ruined

Colin Weedon, the Sussex trainer, sends Miracle Man for the Fitzpat-

rick Hotel Group Novices' Chase (1.05), which will be the gelding's first

race for 14 months. However, given his lengthy absence, it will be surprising if he can win and a more

by a bad mistake at a vital stage.

consistent of the runners in the Morris Handicap Hurdle (1.35) and could still be ahead of the handicapper. He can defy top weight.

12.50 Warning Reef. 1.25 Stip Jig. 1.55 Hever Gol Lover, 2.30 Te Arno. 3.00 Windborn. 3.30 Stalled.

DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

(£3,583: 1m 5f) (13 runners)

1.25 ARMAGH HANDICAP

1.55 ANTIRRE LIMITED STAKES (3-Y-O: E2,395: 51) (4)

2.30 DOWN CLAIMING STAKES

(EZ.908. 1m 2f) (14)

(3-Y-0: £2,428: 71) (5)

9-4 Geograf Hover, 3-1 Sig. Joy. 4-1 Spanie Alley, 9-2 Hidger Dan, 6-1 Retails, 16-1 State Appropria, 12-1 pillers

1 130- SERETSE'S MEPHEW 20 (C.6) S William 1-1 ... S Sandem 2 660- COME TOO MARMATS 55 (D.6) J Bury 5-11. P Fenney (S)-3 421- HEVER GUE LUVER 11 (C.0.3) T Rangham 3-11... G CALCHOU 7 (D.6) C Farthers 8-8... R Langham 4 Langham 5-10... R Langham 5

5-11 Hour Got Loor, 3-1 Scotte's Hepton, 5-1 Caste Too Museum's, 6-5 Caldina

-2 Accions, 9-7 Ben Sporel, Hartestly, 6-1 Kontreus, Way, 8-1 II Transferen, To you, 10-1 others.

1 02-3 LEY MADES 9 R Court 9-7 D More 2 43-3 NOVEROPH 6 C Alter 9-7 G Position (5) 3 055- REF LLEY RUF 12 (B.D. 6) Mics 6 Position 9-5 S Sanders 4 465- WESTONG MUSE 42 P Maker 9-1 Carter 5 004- MYSTERY 16 S Don 8-11 A Daily (9)

3.30 FERTIAMAGE AMATEUR REDERS HANDICAP

2 234- HATTOWIFEN 166 (C.S.) 160s 8 Sordes 6-17-2

-2 Hattalite, 7-7 Genet Alliance, 6-4 Julio Ripo, 7-4 Stalled, 8-4 Ign CGGC-Microscol. 12-1 colors

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRABERS: S Wildere, 6 vacuus from 28 camers, 21 4%, P Haster, 16 town 50, 72 0%, N Gratum, 7 from 36, 19 4%, D Marray-Scrift, 12 from 55, 19 9%, J Borry, 18 from 57, 18 6%, G Banery, 5 from 28, 17 9%

1 652- GREST ALLEGICE 16 (CD,C) A Moore 5-11-7

3 552- STALLED 22 (CDF.E.S) P Waters 7-41-3

200, 11-4 Lify Jugan. 3-1 Mystery, 4-1 Run Lary Rev. 6-1 West

3.00 LONDONDERRY FILLIES HANDICAP

(£2,869: 1m 4f) (8)

12.50 TYRONE MAIDEN STAKES

1.50 in The Money 2.20 日 Hope .

2.50 ANONYM (nep) 3.20 Prophet's Honour 3.50 Silent Valley

2.50 Super High. 3.20 Move The Clouds.

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

### .20 JUPITER HANDICAP

				-
101	- (9)	051330-	WALK THE REAT 64 (C.D.F.G.S) (County Life) M Monde 7-10-0 D Sweeney (5)	91
107	(100)	65100-6	- GAD YAKOUR 7 (5) (M. Léngue) 16 Mempher 4-9-8	
103	(11)	PARTICIPATE.	CLEARY CHARRY 11 RECLIFES U CHARRES D-P-1	9
		.010000	BOFFY 2 (B.CD.G) (S Bargh) 8 Bargh 4-9-4 R Perham	٦,
10¢	(A)	BUILT-20	AL 167 7 (CD & St. (Sherikam And Sould) Miss & Kullsony 7-8-11 F Lynch (3)	88
105	(1)	50025-S		
105	2	430654-	HERICAL TIMES SE (J Francis) U SORP 3-0-11	
107	(13)	978.90-5.	ENCHARTICA 7 (Mrs. J Berry J Berry 3-8-6 CLowther (7)	4
		DECEMBER OF	VICTORIA STOCK 220 (D Date) if Pictoring 4-8-3	- 90
108	(0)	200000		91
镥	<b>(9)</b>	00005-4		ä
110	ា	460400-	SUITE FACTORS 39 (DJF) (A Shields) K (Barin 3-6-7 S Dironne	
111	20	96006-4	RET INDA RILLE TO DAYS J Japan R Falley 5-6-5 1 THORUM	9
112		00007-1	SOTONAN 3 (CD.6) (T Dean) P Felgan 4-8-0 (7es)	91
	(4)	OUDO-1	HONGERHALL 10 (6) (5 McLaughlie) N Bycrot 4-7-13.	57
113	- (12)	00410-0	MANUAL IN ICI IS ANTANIAN A BARRA ALL INC.	
2 H	NO 3	s Aller 5.1	Body, 5-1 Scionium, 13-2 (Zeeing Chappy, 8-1 West: The Beel, 10-1 Englandica, 1	12-1
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#### FORM FOCUS

•	1.	JU	RUSSI	ELL BALDWIN & BRIGHT BREEZE-UP	04	
	SAL	E CL	BHITHIA	STAKES (E2,765: 1m 6f 166yd) (12 ronners)	:	
	201	(2)	511250Y	ROTAL CITIZEN SILL (CO.S.) (J Boltominy) J Sollowing B.O.S.	L Characte	
	202	(4)	04542-0	THE MONEY 7 (C.F.G) (1 Sign) R Hollandered B-9-6	FLyncal (3)	
	308	興	5160	197A 24 (5) [D McCald D McCald 5-8-4	V Slattery	
	<b>304</b>	(10)	120342-	EULOSY 18J (6.5) (Creptide Contractor): K Burton 10-8-4 SELDIER COVE 7 (8) (Labysmood Rackey): M Whadin 7-9-2		
	₩.	· 🕾	\$6184/	ASTRAL BRASSON 493 (B.S.) IE Western & McCont & 4-0		
	知	(12)	110020FD	CHELY LAD 8 (G) (Good Fox Racing) R Joches 6-5-12	A College	ı
	200	. (11)		DEPRYRELLE 40J (Mos & Patron) D Williams 5-8-11		
,	209	(1)	9.0	STORECUTTER 7 (V) (Aless 5 Reherane) M Charges 4-8-10	R Petham	
	210	Ì	00/00-	STURM WIND 701 (V) (Mis E Burba) K Burbs 4-8-10	··· T WITH STREET	
	211	6		"GARLANDHAYES 221 (G Taylor) Miss K Gaorga 5-8-9		
	212			THREESOCKS & PK Barley & Smoot 4-8-5"		1
	E TH	ME'L	i Salow, 1	100-30 Threspects, 4-1 Soldier Core, 13-3 in The Money, 10-1	Biggeoutler, 12-1 E	٩

MAL CITIZEN basi affort 2561 2nd of 15 to El -1	10 to Situ lig in apprentice chimes at Linguis (AM, 1m 4) with STENECUTTER (20 butter of
is in change at Southwell (AN), 1m dl), in March	UNIT - Top · Gall STONE COTTER (20) belief of
Int THE MATRIEV best effect 108 2nd of 12 in	SQ 994 ASTRAL BAYASION DESIGNAT DESI MA
nary Falcox in hymology here (AN), 1st 40 on selection shot.	doir 11 In maidin at Brighaux (1m 41, good) May 9
mathematic start.	THREESOCKS 1961 3rd of 14 to Sazani in seller
LOGY 46 2nd of 13 to Transmissor Scoop to	SUBJECT (ASV, 187 SI) WITH CHELLY LAD (1
imer at Southwell (AW, 1m, 36 with CHELLY LAD)	bulber of 7 324 108s.
better oil) 181 7th SOLDER COVE 39 2nd of	Suinction: ROYAL CITIZEN

### 2.20 TOTE ALL WEATHER LIMITED STAKES

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	301	Δ'n.	20101-1	BLITE HOP	E 7 (CD,G	(Sile No.	deal if Tale	# 5-8-4	F	Lysich (	<b>3</b> )	ĺ
	302	-(4)	30010-0-	DET THE T	ASHON 7	<b>22,10,9</b> )	) (ii Herin	only () (See	POUT DE	idilibs (	5	1
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th at 13 to Planter Trick in hundres at:	handcap at Seasons (AW, Di) an paradi
E BOOK PAY SIN of 12 to Union Book in .	Really A Dissert in apprendice bandicap at Done (77, pools, in Oct 96,
an have (AV. B). MANASAR bled along the	(7) pood, in Oct 96.

## 2.50 PERTEMPS HANDICAP

31:	m 100	d) (13 rumes)	
(6)	1/43/04	PRITER HOSTER 198 (D.R.S.) (Pair Window Packary) J Hardy 6-10-0 S Carbaria	۱.
		SABOT 105-IF) (5 Ame) C Thomas 4-10-0	1
		BUPER HIGH 3 (B.CD.S) (C Hatmond P Housing 5-8-7	: 1
		DUNE VALENTINO 3 (CS.G) (J Bigg) R Hollosband S-8-0	
		MASSIANT STU (D.F.S.S.) (Al Stiffeth) X Beller 9-0-2	
		PURKAN 208 (F.S) (McCont Plea Hauts) 18 McCont 4-8-11. A Studioline (7)	
(4)		STAR TALENT 22 (F.G.S.) Mess & Kelloway 8-8-7	
便		ANDRYS 19 (B,D,F,S) (Methody Racing Bureau D Michaels 5-8-1 -) Branshill (7)	1
(4)		THREE WEEKS 7 (CD.BF,S) (D Williams) W Main 4-7-13	
		LIVE PROJECT 7 (5) (No. 6 Dales) M. Adepton 5-7-12	
劃.		MARKER VALLEY 24.5 (5) Thereshire Companiests D Williams 6-7-10 L Chambook	
(i)		SUGA HANK 7 (S) IP Buryl E Alston 5-7-10	
(11)		BEALMON 7 (0.5) (M Laurence) 9 State 7-7-10	
-		to The Complete 2.7 Second 2.4	

€<sub>7,5</sub>

ER MOSTER wheel 34 (Ab of B to Naywer in offices stare at Andingham (1 m, good to sell). PER HIGH 141 2 est of B to Second Colores in form the star of the Second Colores in 144 2 est of the Second Fisher in the Indiana dient (100), 101, NASHMAT short-based 200 of 8	In Charley in lambicage at Varioush (7), good in 10, 17, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20

## 3.20 WEATHERBYS GROUP MAIDEN STAKES (£3,469: 1m 11 79yd) (11 numers)

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iden LLUL/ Letter Nedcar AFF 1	OMES ( Labout Labout (Im 6	LE 7/6! DE 3rd of L Store) of of 14	and dist 3rd PRO 44 to Jose to Aeca	Conforthedisch in 20cs (ANV) with PHETS HOROLUR Lady in bandicap mate start. FLAG- tasa in soller at 31 3rd of 11 to	in handicap at 1 mete start, MOV 9 to Premier in TOURSHINGS	LE 3961 2nd of Stightlen (Tan 2) E 1745 C2.000 Hapiden here (A 386 better of)	19 to Kristal B I, good) on per S altroid 3.54 3 W, That 100yd)	
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## 3.50 CORAL HANDICAP

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14		(UD\$4-1	CHAILMANNEONAL 1 4 651 (M Cool) P Haslam 8-2 (Sept	Ï
4	(4)	1025-34	SSELLUR SUM: SERVE SERVE 7 BBF-PL SC RESERVER Halfauteur 7.55 - Februarin Ch. 1	
Į,	何	554003-	CAMERE 1 PRINCESS 14 (S), U Senturo) R Hollesbead 7-12	
16	194	9006-64	STATE OF GDLD 5. (R) At West Partners)   Hetherton 7.4 (	á
V.	(1)	700125-	SILENT WILLEY 38 (S) (Wellterby Racing Bureau) D Michaels 7-10 J Brantill (7)	i
n i	and:	p: Stient V	By 74.	
111	NE 6-4	Chairman	nuck, 2-1 Military, 4-1 Shelton Scheringe, 8-1 Devices Princess, 14-1 State of Gold, 16	-1
	-	F 6 BR	to the state of th	•

## FORM FOCUS

## MRLECTY 1941 2nd of 5 to Silverscenses in handi-cap at Lagland (LIM, TT). CHATEMENTER IZ Total Double Expresso Mil In: 7-number handicap at Lagland (AM, Lee 2); SELETOR SOMESISES 566: 4th of 6 to Globalcallar to conditions sick here (LIM, Lim 100ph) DARSHILL PRINCESS 798 3rd of 6 to Komasta in auction mutique histo (ASI, 77). STATE OF GOLD about 44 4th of 70 to Aspecto Lad in sellor at Studience (ASI, 100, SEENT VALLEY best ellor) 57 2and of 9 to Just Lord in Coloran at Lingheld (ANI, 68) on principlescale state. Selection: CHATEALHERAUT

#### COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS JOCKEYS" 188 240 13 231 26 200 28 200 146 192 29 172

## Sponsor adds incentive

RUSSELL BALDWIN & BRIGHT, the auctioneers, sponsors the second race at Wolverhampton today as part of a campaign to promote the course's first breeze up sale on March 10. Any horse bought at the sale of two-year-olds will be eligible for a £30,000 six-furlong race on the track on August 16. In addition they will collect a £1,000 bonus if winning any of the 20 races for juveniles to be run at Wolverhampton this year.

## Move The Clouds to put her opponents in shade

#### WOLVERHAMPTON **CHANNEL 4**

1.50: Eulogy, twice a winner at around this trip on Southwell's similar surface. is the form choice. An outside here, but the track has changed and the inside rail now offers the faster ground. so Karl Burke's runner may not be suited by being drawn so wide, Royal Citizen has been pulled up in both starts over hurdles this year but he did win two claimers over course and distance two years ago and he is a tentative choice.

2.20: After two course and distance successes inside a formight. Elite Hope looks sure to start favourite, but the outside draw is a big worry. I prefer Miss Offset, especially as she has the pace to take advantage of a plant draw next to the rail. She undoubtedly prefers fibrosund, so a slightly disappointing effort at Lingfield last time can be ignored. She is well treated judged on a four-length win at Southwell in November.

5/1 Khayrawani

7/4 Clifdon Foa

8/1 Family Way

9/1 Penny A Day

12/1 Black Queen 12/1 Guest Performance

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Umbrella

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22/1 Centaur Express

25/1 Master Tribe

**2B/1** Glint Of Eagles

33/1 Fontaine Lodge

33/1 Magical Lady

33/1 Metastasio

building society debit cards.



#### TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.50: This is a high-class contest by all-weather standards, but neither of the topweights has previous ex-perience of sand. Although Super High excels around here, he likes to race prominently and is badly drawn for that purpose. He should confirm his recent superiority over Duke Valentino, himself disappointing of late. Three Weeks has better prospects over what appears his optimum trip. Only marginally ahead of Suga Hawk and Beauman here last week, he meets both those rivals on better terms. He can triumph for the third time in four starts. Anonym is unreliable. and Live Project, badly ham-RICHARD EVANS the biggest threat.

3.20: Move The Clouds deserves the benefit of the doubt after a decent effort in better company here in November. The filly, who has a suspect temperament. Touch'n'go well in arrears then and her stable is already among the winners this year Holders Hill, lightly raced of late, may again have to settle for a place. A more interest-

ing proposition is Prophets

Honour, who disappointed when strongly fancied last time. He should appreciate this shorter trip. 3.50: Chateauherault will be popular after winning at Lingfield on Wednesday. when the first two home finished well clear. However. it remains to be seen how he will cope with this different

surface and he looks vulnerable under a penalty. Millroy. by contrast, ran with credit here last month - and again over seven furlongs at Lingfield more recently. when he appeared nailed by the handicapper. But he should improve over this longer trip and can master some ordinary opponents.

JULIAN MUSCAT

OUTLOOK

MONDAY'S MEETINGS PONTWELL: Traser SOUTHWELL: \$1-480755 Toking

RESUAY CARUSLE: hoger in parts LEICESTER: STON AT 2 1021 LINGRIELD PARKS a has store meeting

DESPITE a forecast rise in

temperatures, the jumps cards

on Monday and Tuesday are

in doubt. The point-to-points

at Larkkill. Tweseldown and Cottenham this weekend have

RACING NEXT WEEK

also off been called off.

WEDNESDAY: Wichestram, can

LINGFIELD

W'HAMPTON 103

102 202

120 220

203

( يكذا من الرصل

# LEOPARDSTOWN

12.35 Rawy, 1.05 Ultra Flutter, 1.95 Roein The Bow. 2.05 idiots Venture, 2.35 Fernily Way, 3.10 Kilcoo Boy, 3.40 Reinbow Victor.

GOING: YELDING TV: 88C1 1.05, 1.35, 2.05, 2.35; C4 2.05, 2.35

12.35 PETZPATRICK CASTLE HURDLE (£4,110: 2m) (6 nuners)
1 486- 1015F940E-287 F.Ch. A.L.T. Moore 6-11-11
2 AGL MR PAYTER PASSES 12 AG T J Timbs 6-11-11 . H William

	_	
		ft Barby Basics, S-1 Kilopuda, 7-1 Foyle Wavdow, 8-1 Felles Me Agen,
		DYLE WANTEFER 12 D McDunogh \$-11-2 DT Evens
5	022-	ANY 14 (E.S) C Rocks 5-11-7 G D'Deyer
		ATHER GERRY 16 (G) J.A. Pipon 7-71-7
3	0/0-	SK ME AGAIN 55 W J Biole 7-11-7
2	661-	明 BAXTER BASICS 12 何 T J Tambe 6-11-11 。 N Williamson
1	400-	LSPREDE 2位 作的 A L T Moses 6-11-11 F Woods

(£4,1	10: 3	m) (/)
3	121-	ROSN THE BOTH 21 (G,R) A P (784m 6-11-4 C F Sum
2	524-	TELL THE NETPER 15 (SLC) M Hourspan 6-10-12 JP Broderic
		RISING WATERS 16 (G) D McDuropo 9-10-5 K F O'Bris
4	<b>0</b> %-	APPELLATE COLUTT 63 (5) J Dunne 9-13-4 A Power
		MULLOVER 2 (6) Mrs 1: tempton 6-10-4 J Short
6	15-1	ROCK'S ROLL FOR S (G.S) W P Markets 6-10-0 (4m) D J Case
- 7	30t-	GLEMPREDS CASTLE 16 (F.G) I A Darcan 7-9-10. DOUSTFU
		Box, 9-4 Test The Higger, 4-1 Rock a Roll (Gd, 6-1 Mallaner, 12-1 14-1 Appellate Charl.

	mer In	10,200 300 (0)
1	215-	RUYAL MOUNTEROWNE 28 (6,5) A P O'Bres 9-12-0 T Horgan
- 5	/SU-	ENGIS VENTURE 14 (E.S) A P G Book 10-11-11 . C F Sweet
- 3	<b>B</b> 2-	RONG OF THE GALES 14 (G.S. A.L. I Moore 10-11-1 C O'BOST
4	45U-	FISSURE SEAL 35 (F.G.S) P L T Home 11-10-13 R Dermondy
		TRYAPBOR 15 (F.G.S) V Ocupts 3-10-4
		THE CRAZY BISHOP IS IG.SI A MARKS 9-10-3 _ G STARTED
		TIME FOR A FURI 15 (G.S) E J O'Clack 10-10-0 II Williamson
		WHALE OF A KANGHET 15 IG.ST A L T Moore 9-10-6 F Woods
	_	A Ren. 7-2 Whate CV A Bright, 4-1 Very Of the Gales, 11-2 Verbs
1965	0. 6-1 f	topal Alberta rouse. 14-1 The Court School 16-1 others

## 2.35 THE LADBROKE

			LISE CHUDHUKE	
(H	310	iicap	hurdle, E39,200: 2m) (23)	
	1	385-	MOTOMPLANDICOUT 28 (G.S) P Motos 6-11-12 T P Tea	20
	2	06.3	EXPRESS RET 21 (C.S) Mrs N Reside; (GR) 8-11-10 N SA	ē
	ă	12L	GUEST PERFORMANCE 12 (6.5) & THUCKES 5-17-10 R (8)	S
	<u> </u>	11.1	PERRY A DAY 25 (G.S) No. IN Reaster (G2) 7-11-12 Pile	Ξ
	3	772	HALL SOCIETY 12 4GH N Meach 5-17-6	
	Ē	12.1	EXECUTIVE DESIGN 50 (G,S) Mrs M Pendey (GB) 5-11-5	
	_		GC	
		141-	NUMBERS AND TOO STORY CHARLES -11-4 COTON	E
	â	anp.	MADCAL LADY 21 (2 M JP GE & 5-11-3 IPR	u
	3	711	KONG OF KERRY 27 (G.S. A.P. C'Ben E-10-13 C.F. Se	ç
4	10	770	SHOWEN HERO 20 KLS) F McCores 7 (C-12 J P Brode	÷
	i i	Libra.	FALL WAY 42 (D) J. L. L. SON T. L. L. F. WO	3
		200	METASTASTO 14 (B.S) 0 G MA-de 5-73-10 H ROD	^
- 1	12	180	REASE VIA 14 (G.S) E 1 0 Grade 7-15-12	£
		100-	MONTH IN REPLECT OF STREET FOR THE PARTY OF	-5
	14	42-	GLMT OF EAGLES 12 (G.S) IF Places 8-18-9 B J Ca	?
	15	Mar-	LADY ARPEL 42 AG P DIGET 5-10-3 KF UTB	3
	Ę		CLIFOCH FOG 14 (8,6) I S Bolger 6-13-3 A P Med	
	17		CENTAUR EXPRESS 36 (G.S. & Streeter (G2) 5-10-4 _ TE	A,
1	۱ê	-3 <b>4</b> 5	UNTAK 35 (G) J Car (GS) 6-10-4 . FLE	ā
- 1	3	D-82	18 STER THRE ZZ (GS) No. J Photo (GZ: 7-10-4	
			N Village	e e
- 3		0-46	PALACEGATE NOTE SO (S) A VENEZUE CEN 5-10-4 1 Hom	
	7	249	FORTAGE LODGE 14 (F.G) & Malines 7-10-1 . A Man	4
- 3	-	201.	BLACK QUEEN 16 (G) JE (G6) 6-3-12 A J O'B	Ξ
	-		The second of th	-

#### MONDAY: Southwell All. first 1999 1959 Forties, Park 12,401 TUESDAY: Lingfield Park. All. 115). Carrole 17:00: Lit description 11:00

1.45) Huntingdom in Ele Minteon (1.56) THURSDAY Lingfield Park (A.W., 1.36) Ladina (1.10), Taumon in 20.	3.10 ASSIFORD IN HIPLAT RACE (\$3.082.2m) (11)
FRIDAY, Southwell 14A 1151, Kelso 11000, Femous Pakin A.C. SATURDAY, Unglield Pakin A.M. 1105A, Cattack 1100, mardon Pakin 1860 1040, Nemotion Pakin CA 110. Fall meetings in policy.	1 144 CLAV (RID WATTLES 12 (D) P STEAM 5-12-1 MARK WISS 2 RES. OPPOSE SOLAPERO 12 RES. STEAM 15-12-7 MET 1 SEAM 3 212- MALEO BOY 13 (S) A P O'REO 6-12-4 WA ST WE SEA 4 201- VALLEY ERRE 21 RG M Commission 6-12-4 WA ST W 5 GOOD MARS DAYERS 5 (D) 14 Legals 7-14-13 Mr 3 P SEAM 5 CONACHER LEADER NO PARK 6-11-13 Mr 3 P SEAM 7 9 - SEQUITY MERC 49 F Many 6-11-11 Mr 3 F G STOR
RACELINE	2 9 GROWTOWN LUD 2001 A Serty 6-11-11 IN-1 MR 1 M 3 OUR BO X Providence 6-17 11 III IN-1 MR 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M

# 3.40 TAMEY I N H FLAT RACE (\$3,682. 2m) (9)

ALOTSCHEMENT J Lache 11-7 Mr A J Martin COUNTY CAPPARD G MI (1988 11-7 Mr A J Martin COUNTY CAPPARD G MI (1988 11-7 Mr A J Martin CYBET TO YOUR S J Martin 11-7 Mr A J Martin (7) LOCK BARK H de Browbead 11-7 Mr A T Rache (7) Mr A Rache (1988 Mr A J Martin 11-7 Mr B A T Cache (1988 Mr A J Martin 11-7 Mr B A T Cache (1988 Mr A J Mr A J Mr A J Mr A Rache (1988 Mr A J MR A J

2 061- MR BACTER BASKS 12 (6) T J Tanhs 6-11-11. IN Williamson to ASK ME AGAIN 55 W 1 bards 7-15-7. R Darwoody 5 022- RAMY 14 (B.6) C Rootes 5-11-7. R Darwoody 5 022- RAMY 14 (B.6) C Rootes 5-11-7. G O'Dywer 8 0003- ROYLE WANDENER 12 D McDunogh 6-11-2. D T Event Ramy 9-7 Mr Baste Sacis, 5-1 Kitopedes, 7-1 Foyle Windows, 8-1 February, 25-1 Aut Me Agen.	
.05 FITZPATRICK HOTEL GROUP HONCE	

## CHASE (85,480: 2m 5f) (8)

i tili ekser	iz Au	tur, 5-2 The Carry Rus, 4-1 Man Of Arus, 9-2 Fischpains, 7-1 12-1 Mahus Saaks, 16-1 Garakoph, 33-1 Radiani Rever
ä	OP.	HADNANT RIVER 12 J Makes 7-11-4 G Coppr (2)
		NATIVE STATUS 28 (G.S) T Carbony 7-11-4 If Wireland (3)
á	4/2	MARACLE MAN 425 (S) C Westen (CB) 9-11-1 . Il Williamont
		MAN OF ARRAN 34 (6,5) P CLEAR 7-11-4 K.F. (TB-III)
Ä	503-	GARABAGH 14 (S) J H Scott 8-11-4 P McWitness
		(ULTRA FLUTTER 15 (5.5) M Houseu 18-11-8
2	<b>715</b> -	THE CAPPEG FRUE 16 (S.S.) III Flyon 7-11-8 R Donwoody
1	301-	FMCHPALM 12 (8.5) F Flood 7-11-8 F J Flood

1 *CC 2 M MORRE HAMMER UNINE
(£4,110: 3m) (7)
1 121- ROSIN THE BOYN 21 (G,S) A P CTH to 6-11-8 C F Sin
2 524 TELL THE NETYER 15 (S.C) M Hourgan 6-10-12 J P Brodwic
3 000- RISING WATERS 16 (G) D McDuroso 9-10-5 K F (7) http://
4 ON- APPELLATE COURT 63 (S) J Burne 9-19-4 A Print
5 44-2 MULLOVER 2 (6) Mrs 1: Normation 6-10-4
6 15-1 ROCK'N ROLL RID 5 (G.S) W P MARKS 6-10-0 (4m) D J Case
201 GLEWRELDS CASTLE 16 (F.G)   A Darcan 7-9-10 . DOUSTRU
5-4 Rocks The Box, 9-4 Test The Higgs. 4-1 Rock a Roll IGO, 6-1 Mallanes, 12-1

## 2.05 PIERSE LEOPARESTOWN HANDICAP CHASE (F16 250: 3m) (R)

g		
1	305-	NOTCOMPLANDICALT 28 (G.S) P Moles 6-11-12 T P Team
- 2	06-3	EDPRESS RET 21 (CLS) this N Reader (ED) 8-11-10 IN Sept.
3	1701	GUEST PERFORMANCE 12 (6.5) C THUCKES 5-17-10 R HINDRE
- 4	11-1	PERRY A DAY 35 (G.S) No. 12 Reaster (G2) 7-11-12 P Note
5	222	HEL SOCIETY 12 4GH & Mean's 5-17-6 R Demonstra
E	12-1	EXECUTIVE DESIGN 50 (G,S) Mrs M Pendey (GB) 5-11-5
		GCM
	141-	NHAVRAMAN 109 F.Q. C. Rocke 5-11-4 C. C'Dury NACCCAL LADY 21 (GI No. 1 P. Claser 5-11-3
ä	SIP-	MAGGALLADY 21 (E) M JP (Tare 5-11-3 IP Red
3	211-	KERG OF KERRY 27 (G.S) A P (Fiber E-13-13 C F Swa
10	Z9-	SHORES HERO 20 (G.S) F NicCours 7-10-12 JP Brodest
11	572	FALSE T WAY 42 GD 2 L I 3 DOOR TO -10-11 F WOOD
12	534	METASTASIO 14 (B.S) U G M:A-de 5-12-10 H RODE
12	188-	REASENIA 14 (G.S) E 1 0 Greb 1 15 (d) G Brack
14	022-	REASE WA 14 (G.S) E L O'GHE (175-12) GRACE GLINT OF EAGLES 12 (G.S) OF P Makes 8-70-5 D J Case
35	030	LADY ARPEL 42 AG P DIGET 5-10-3 KF UBAS
15	613-	CONFOCH FOG 14 (8,6) IS Bolger 6-13-8 A P McCa
17		CENTAUR EDPRESS 36 (C.S. A Streete (Cd) 5-10-4 _ T Et
18	-345	ICRTAK 35 (G) J Car JGS 6-TC-4 FLood
:9	0.02	MASTER TRUE ZZ (G.S) No. 1 Phone (52: 7-10-4
		Magazin
700	fl.ac	PALACREATE NOTE SO (5) A VENERO (22) 5-82-4 THOUSE
- 4	140	FORTAPIE LODGE 14 F Gy & Making 7-10-1 . A Magain
**	270	BLACK QUEEN 16 (G) J E (G) 6-3-12 A J O'Bate
37	3D2	TEACHER OF STATE OF STATE AND STATE OF
		RESCUE TIME 16 (S) > Prencesses + 3-12
5-73:		u 6-1 Calden Fog. 7-1 Family Way 9-1 Jenny A Gay, 19-1 Mag (
	7.1 40	we Come Greet References all Courts, \$4.4 April

13.	EZ. 2	(11) (m) (11)
1	14-	CLAY 400 WATTLES 12 (E) P TLery 6-12-7 Mr A & Whose (
3	903-	DROCKERO UPPER 12 (E.S.) Silvers 15-12-7 by 1 J Bears
- 3	212-	MLCDD BOY 14 GI 4 P (Paber 6 124 Mr 8 Mr Cont )
4	5811-	VALLEY GIBE 21 (G) M Considera 6:42-4 Mr & 3 Mars
- 3	60-0	MAGS DWYER 5 (G 1 J Lamer 7-11-13 . Nr J P Michaelle (
- 5	_	CONACHER LEADER IN PRIME E-11-11
7	9-	DECUMENTED OF PROOF STORY OF THE PARTY OF THE PROOF
	9-	CHOWTOWN LAD 388 JA Sery 5-11-11 # JA Ber
3	_	OUR BID & Promise and 6-11 11
10	251-	CORPORER IS ACT HI de Reselvat 5-11-7 Mr M. T. Haston I
11	60-	COPYROSE IS (ID) H de Bearbert 5-11-3 No N. 7 Hartray I HFLD PICCULO 16 D WcGroech 5-11-2 Mass S McDonogh (
	1 700	y 1-1 Clay And Marties, 9-2 Construct Lawren 5-1 On Bat, York
, TE, 3	- · Long	PER 14-1 (Mag)

Blinkered first time S.4 Randow Victor 9-4 Myten Geld, 7-1 Each Sta. 3-1 Stavey Makes, 18-1 Automotion, Capin Price, 14-1 County Capture, 18-1 Cherty

40/1 Kaitak 12/1 King Of Kerry 40/1 Reasilvia 14/1 Express Gift 40/1 Shanes Hero 14/1 Executive Design 16/1 Hill Society 50/1 Palacegate King 16/1 Notcomplainingbut 50/1 Rescue Time 20/1 Lady Arpel TOT DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE OF **RACING:** FORMER CHAMPION SIGNS OFF AS JUMPING RETURNS

# Worsening leg problems end Alderbrook's career

RACING CORRESPONDENT

ALDERBROOK, one of the outstanding dual-purpose horses of recent years, was retired yesterday after increasing problems with his suspect legs made any more racing too

The eight-year-old deserves to be bracketed with the likes of Sea Pigeon and Royal Gait after his feat of winning the 1995 Champion Hurdle less than six months after landing the Prix Dollar, a group two race at Longchamp.

His brilliant victory at the Cheltenham Festival was achieved on only his third start over hurdles and the eight-year-old, runner-up to Collier Bay last year before winning the Scottish Champion Hurdle, had been ante-post favourite to win the hurdlers' crown again this March. However, the soft ground-

RICHARD EVANS

loving son of Ardross, trained

Nap: SON OF ANSHAN (12.35 Newcastle) Next best: Sparky Gayle (2.10 Newcastle)

on the Flat by Julie Cecil and over jumps by Kim Bailey, has a history of leg problems. including an operation to remove chips from a knee, and they have worsened recently.

'It was not a hard decision because I don't like seeing horses in pain and by continuing in training he would have been in pain." Bailey said yesterday. "He has a stud career ahead of him and will make a wonderful stallion. He had to have soft ground and we have had fast ground for so long it has made it nigh on impossible to train him. His joints have got puffier and the tendons at the back of his joints have been playing him up. The decision to retire him was taken jointly with his owner, Ernie Pick.

The news of Alderbrook's retirement, which comes only days after the death of Mysilv, will accentuate the desire to find other potential champions as the weather begins to ease. The search will begin



Highland Park, left, wins at Musselburgh on the resumption of jumps racing yesterday

yesterday confident of staging an excellent meeting with several Cheltenham and Aintree candidates on view.

Ann Swinbank is enjoying a terrific season and she has a fine chance to improve on a winning strike rate of 29 per cent. Son Of Anshan, who has progressed with each run and won over course and distance last time, can follow up in the Teal Novices' Hurdle (12.35) and enhance his sale price.

"He's up for sale and we are looking for the right owner." Mrs Swinbank said yesterday "We think he is quite good. We have not been held up by the weather as much as some and Son Of Anshan went to Southwell for a gallop last week. We have an all-weather gallop at home and he's been kept ticking over."

The Adversport Dipper Novices' Chase (2.10) has brought together an attractive field of first-season chasers, but I have no hesitation in

useful hurdler last term, he looks set to become an even better chaser judged on two sparkling victories this season, including over course and distance last time.

The form of his latest success looks solid with the third and sixth having won since, while Solomon's Dancer, the runner-up, was only just beaten in the Feltham Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day.

12.40 (2m Indio) 1. Best Of All (M Moloney, 16-1); 2. Shrnerdia (2-1 (-kay); 3. Falcon's Flame (9-4) Lively Encounter 2-1 (-kay, 1) ran 41, sh hd. J Berry Tota: \$16.80; \$4.50, \$1.60, \$1.00 DF \$22.00 The \$24.40 CSF-\$45.56

1.10 (2m hdie) 1, Hutcel Loch (A 3 Smith, 9-1), 2, Maple Bay (12-1); 3, Nutty Solera (5-1) Music Ploase 11-8 fav 10 ran 5h hd. 91 R Woodhouse, Toia: 28 10, £1 80, £2 30, £2.20 DF £191.20 Tricr £48,90, CSF-£100 S8

Musselburgh

ruined Sparky Gayle's train-ing routine. "We have been fortunate because we have several fields in a hollow which the frost has not been able to get into. Although he has not done a lot of fast work he has never missed a canter. David Parker, son of Colin, the trainer, said yesterday.

2.15 (2m ch) 1, Monymen (R Gamity, 8-11 tav), 2, Deviley (12-1), 3, Gone Ashore (85-1) 6 ran 101, 61 M Hammond Tota 12 10, 21, 10, 23 80 DF, 25 00, CSF, 28 85

2.46 (3m hdis) 1, Highland Park (A Dobbin, 16-1), 2, Snow Board (11-4), 3, Supertop (6-4 tay) 8 ran NR-Hoblan Ns, 11 R Cargot Tota 214 90; 52-40, 23-90, 67-10 DF (220 80 Tho 524 90 CSF 556.23 Thosas 596 14

3.16 (2m 4) chi 1, Weyuphili (8 Storey, 5-1), 2, Puntan (9-4 bay); 3, Val De Rama (8-1), 7 ran 8, 9l. C Parker, Tote: 05 00, £2.80, £1 90. DF: £10,60 CSF £15 91.

3.45 (2m 41 hole) 1, Kalisto (S Mairose, 16-11; 2, Flystway Bluss (5-1), 3, Mr Christie (25-1) Alvaroga 100-30 lav 15 mar. 254, 11, H Allan, Yore 154 05: 113 09, 123 09, 59 30 DF, 1238-50. The: £147 00 CSF: 558 57. Thous

## NEWCASTLE

12.35 Son Of Anshan. 1.05 Lord Gyllene. 1.35 Sea Victor, 2.10 Sparky Gayle, 2.45 The Toiseach. 3.15 Weaver George. 3.45 Colour Code. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.35 SEA VICTOR.

Our Newmarket Correspondent 1.35 BLOMBERG (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES)

12.35 TEAL JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (\$2,327: 2m) (12 runners)

3-1 Mollemeson, 7-2 Son Ol Austran, 4-1 No Mere Haesle, 6-1 Jackson Park, 10-1 Double Agent, 12-1 Cumbrian Maestro, 14-1 Needle Malch, 18-1 offers.

1.05 PINTAIL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,592: 3m 6f) (14) 1 40.5 CAMES WARE 25 BF.R.S.N I Notice-Times 11-11-10 D Wales E 2 - 231 LORD STLLENE 21 63 S Brookstow 9-11-10. R Johann St 2 - 793 CALDAN DOV 49 (C.F.R.S.) bir. ) Combain 11-11-5. A Combain 4 F-51 SEWN TOWERS 40 (C.S.S.) bir. ) Router 9-11-12. A Double 8 5 E-74 LEWING COLLONGES 21 (A.C.D.S.S.) J Router 8 11-10-10 P. Double 9-11-10 P.

Pubery

5 SALS PARS CAMER 23 (F.E.S) M Starroad 9-10-4 J Oddone

7 711 - HATERM CASTLE 253 (F.E.S) M Starroad 9-10-4 K Jones

8 -125 MY DMLP 40 (C.F.E.S) L Meson 9-10-2 Mr C Bosser (3)

9 P-12 WOODLANDS BOY 36 (F.S.R Cute 9-10-1 D Morels

10 FP-10 WWW STATES 38 (C.F.E.S) & Insee 5-10-1 D Morels

10 FP-10 WWW STATES 38 (C.F.E.S) & Insee 5-10-1 D Morels

10 FP-10 WWW STATES 38 (C.F.E.S) & Insee 5-10-1 D Mr Mr FP-10 WWW STATES 38 (C.F.E.S) & Insee 5-10-1 D Mr M Hamilton (7)

11 451 FP-10 EV 27 (F.S. B BERGO 9-10-0 D Mr M Hamilton (7)

11 1574 SDEE 27 (F.S. B BERGO 9-10-0 D M KAWANGH (5)

14 SSSF COOL WEATHER 36 (B) P Cheesbrooph 9-10-0 B Storry

1.35 HERNESSY COGNAC SPECIAL SERIES NOVICES 1 2-21 ALZMUI 21 (0.F.G.S) J Roggradd 6-(1-6)
2 BLOMBERB 3SF J Fambrase 5-11-5
4 SOLIN FRANK SD I Existing 5-11-5
4 2P CLAMERRG 38 (SF) J Johnson 7-11-6
8 80-4 DOW'T TELL TOW 23 J Water 7-11-5
5 4 EL CRAWK SENGR 92 R Woodstore 6-11

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRABIERS: Mrs M Reveley, 30 tempors from 126 corners, 23,8%; P Cheesbrough, 11 from 62, 17 7%; M W Esstarby, 7 from 40, 17.9%, J FRogerald, 7 from 43, 16.3%; C Parter, 5 from 32, 15 6%. 2.10 ADVERSPORT DIPPER NOVICES CHASE (Grade II: £11,848: 2m 4f) (10)

| Grade | L. ±11,540; CH. 41) | 110 |
1 | FFI | SIMPLY DASHBE 21 (D.F.G.S) | Lehesto 6-11-12 R Cardiny 8 |
2 | 1213 | DOWN THE FELL 55 (D.F.G.S) | Lehesto 6-11-9 P Cardeny 8 |
3 | 4-11 | SPARKY GAYLE 42 (CD.F.G.S) C Pader 7-11-9 ... 8 Sumy 9 |
4 | 1227 | BALLYLINE 45 (G) W | Isomp 6-11-5 | A Magazin 6 |
5 | 16 BRIGHTER SYNDE 81 (F) Not Remains 7-11-5 ... A Mountain 8 |
8 | 1003 | FRE TUNE 15 (Mr. 5 Backbarne 7-11-5 ... A Thomas 7 |
1 | 125 | LE DIESTAN 42 (P) Mr. 5 Windows 10-11-5 ... Then 6 |
8 | 21/3 MAJOR LOOK 22 (F) S Brodistor 9-11-5 ... R Johnson 9 |
9 | OFP MORNARE FORTE 45 (D.E.S) J. Admin 7-11-5 ... M Michanny 10 |
10 | 249- MOST RICH 2457 B Ellison 9-11-5 ... D J. Kenningh Brodistor 10-15 |
10 | 249- MOST RICH 2457 B Ellison 9-11-5 ... D J. Kenningh Brodistor 10-15 |
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5-4 Simply Dephing, 7-4 Sputhy Bayle, 8-1 Deam The Fell, 12-1 Ballyline, Brighter Shade, 18-1 Major Look, 20-1 others

2.45 BITTERN HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,039; 3m) (17)

3.15 NORTH EAST RACING GROUP ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP CRASE (\$2,837; 2m 110yd) (11)

5-1 Whence Secure. 4-1 Aljadesr, 5-1 Crosshot, 7-4 One For The Pot, 8-1 Anim, 10-1 Chill Wind, Full O'Praise, 12-1 others.

 $3.45\,$  shoveler standard open national Hurit

BALCONY BOY R Woodhouse 5-11-4 A S Smith
BILLY BUCKSIGN 21 J Modes 5-11-4 D J Kersengh (5)
BRAVDSBY MRISTIER 23 P Beaumont 6-11-4 B Gratten (7)
COTTSTOWN BOY Mas S Bradeure 5-11-4 M F Spelin
HELPERRY J Johnson 5-11-4 F Smith P Carbony
NITO THE BLACK Lists in Reveloy 6-11-4 C McCommick (7)
LIGAD PROTOSIOL 581 P Interior 6-11-4 A T Doobte
MARPE MELIOUY 22 L Lungo 6-11-4 R Supple
OVER 25-ALOUS J Upono 5-11-4 J Osborne
RECCA 23 Danys Smith 5-11-4 A Thombon
ROYAL BUTHLINE OF Moure 6-11-4 A Callegham
SR BOB 22 W McComm 5-11-4 A Callegham

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Qur Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Circled (10-1); 3, Guillver (13-2), 7 ren. %, 19I. J Banks, Tote: £1 40; £1 10, £3 30 DF-£8 90, CSF: £8.04 1.20 (1m 3) 1, Underweienscubechte (Mrs. C. Williams, 6-1); 2, Reindeer Ousst, (6-4 se); 3, Kinamartyra (6th (7-1) 12 ran, 4t. 4t. M. Bleichy Tote; 55.20; 51.80, 51.10, 54.40. DF: 55.30. Trice 226.40 CSF; \$16.12. Tricest; 256.97. 3.26 (76) 1, Series Of Priority (Alex Greaves, 5-1); 2, Etch Ledger (11-10 bar); 3, Sea Dev6 (9-1), 16 ran 141, 61 D Nichols, Totas: 25 50; 22 00; 27, 70, 52 40, DF; 55 30. Tric: 23.50, CSF; 510 57 3.85 (1m) 1, Gulf Shaedi (8 Drowns, 12-1); 2, Nordic Brazza (8-1); 3, Domino Flyar (2-1 Say), 12 min. 294, 34. E. Aleton, Toles: \$10.90; \$2.70, \$2.90, \$1.10. DF: \$17.00. Trac. \$107.10 CSF: \$104.10, Tricost: \$256.62.

Sailing

## **Iceberg** threat to Canadian skipper

BY EDWARD GORMAN SALLING CORRESPONDENT

THERE were growing fears at the Vendée Globe Race headquarters in Paris last night that Gerry Roufs, the Canadian skipper, with whom they lost touch on Monday. may have sailed his Open 60.

Groupe LG2, into an iceberg. Yesterday the skipper of the Panamanian-registered cargo ship, Mass Enterprise, which has diverted to lead the search for Roufs, reported that an iceberg, estimated to be 4,000 metres in length and 50 metres high, was drifting through the zone where Roufs was last pin-

Although winds in the area - 2,600 miles from Chile and outside the range of search aircraft - are down to about 30 knots, the rescue effort is being hampered by rough

seas and fog. Roufs, who lives in France, was lying in second place, midway between New Zealand and Cape Horn, when he encountered 70-knot winds on

Monday. Since then he has failed to respond to satellite-fax and radio messages from race headquarters and from his fellow competitors. None of Roufs's radio beacons are transmitting in either alert or distress mode.

. Four of his fellow skippers have been attempting to to join the search, but Isabelle Autissier, of France, sailing PRB as an unofficial competitor after making a stop at Cape Town, has had to give up through exhaustion.

In Paris, where staff have had very little sleep for five days while dealing with the rescue of Tony Bullimore and Thierry Dubois, there was obvious concern for Roufs. "It is very worrying," a spokeswhat has happened, it is terrible."

For Pete Goss, in Aqua Ouorum, who set sail again on Thursday from Hobart after dropping off the rescued Ra-phael Dinelli, motivation is the problem as he returns to the Southern Ocean, for the Briton is now last of the eight worried about Cyclone Drena,

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CHANGING TIMES

CRICKET: BOWLERS ENJOY USEFUL WORKOUT AGAINST ACADEMY BUT BATSMEN FRUSTRATED BY RAIN

# Cyclone deals early blow to England

ENGLAND'S one-day game against a New Zealand Cricket Academy XI at glorious Pukekura Park, the first match of the tour, was abandoned at the halfway stage yesterday when torrential rain intervened. The students had been dismissed for 201 in 41 overs when the rain, which had earlier reduced the match from 50 to 46 overs a side, returned with a vengeance.

The weather was predicted and more is expected to come today. Cyclone Drena was due to hit the northwest coast, near Auckland, last night and the forecast for today is for it to follow the route the players took on Thursday, towards the Taranaki region. It is a good job the players are heading inland today, to Palmerston North, where a four-day match against an Invitation XI begins on Monday.

There were wickets for all the bowlers yesterday, which is not to say they all bowled with equal distinction. Cork looked a bit ring-rusty, which is not surprising after his fourmonth rest period, and Irani struggled to contain the batsmen, who were all eager to play their shots. Gough, who kept the ball up in the blockhole, and Silverwood, who deployed a canny slower ball, probably enjoyed the day

most of all. On a small, quick-scoring ground, where Central Districts last week made 376 in a one-day game. England rested Tufnell, the left-arm spinner. as well as Croft who is nursing a sore toe. David Lloyd, the England coach, described the performance as "perfectly adequate", which is a bit of an oxymoron, though his meaning was clear. These are early days, and a match of this sort is no real guide to the

state of the team's cricket. Cork took a wicket in his second spell after his first burst of five overs had gone unrewarded. Craig McMillan, the 20-year-old Canterbury batsman, who led the

England's tour of New Zealand gets under way at scenic Pukekura Park yesterday. Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Allsport

15 runs from one over, following three boundaries with a push for three down the ground.

Cork did not look best pleased, and growled at the batsman. McMillan, who hit seven fours and a pick-up six off Irani in making 58 from 56 balls, looked a decent player.

Having missed the Zimbabwe part of the winter tour. Cork has ground to make up. An idle four-month stretch is unheard-of for an international cricketer in these frantic days, and one that he has not enjoyed since he was a tyro at Derby in 1991, before he toured West Indies with the

England A team as a 20-year-

When he finally stepped up to Test cricket in 1995, against West Indies at Lord's, Cork shone at once, to the extent that the England attack came to depend on him to an unnatural degree. He fully earned his sabbatical and should return with his powers enhanced. He looks fit and, if he regains his best form quickly, the team will be all

the stronger for it. "I felt it went OK today," Cork said. "I bowled too many 'four-balls', but the ball came out well enough. It was the first bowl I have had on grass

for a while and the more cricket I can get under my belt then, obviously, the better it

Caddick and Gough shared the first four wickets, helped by some poor shot selection. Dayle Hadlee, the academy coach, said afterwards that they were encouraged to play positively at all times, but only McMillan and Greg Loveridge, 21, an all-rounder, found the means to prosper.

Loveridge contributed a half-century, 54 from 58 balls, without reaching the boundary, and he appears to have an international future. A leg spinner, he played for the Test side last year against Zimbabwe, but did not get a bowl after breaking his hand. He articulate young man, and any side could use a good wrist spinner. England might be seeing him again before too

long. Caddick, given the new ball in place of Mulially, who was resting, ended up with three wickets, and Russell, who also has not seen much action this winter, held five catches. It is a sad sight to see Russell reduced to the margins, but he is keeping up a cheerful appearance and his turn may come

A Limeter of Russell b Caddlok

D Bell b Caddlok

D Bell b Caddlok

G Howels Buy b Gough

D McMiller c Silverwood b Isan,
Lynch c Russell b Gough

R Laveridge c Knight b Caddlok

J Penn c Russell b Con,
J Hestern C Russell b Isan

ENGLAND XI: "M A Alberton, N V Knigd G P Thorpe, N Huteain, J P Crewiey, R Iren, †R C Russell, D G Cork, A R Caddle D Gough, C E W Severagod.

RUGBY UNION: LEADING CLUBS LOOK OVERSEAS AS UNITED STATES SEEK TO SETTLE IN CARDIFF

# Lara leading the way into promising land piva

By Our Sports Staff

THE burden of being generally regarded as the best batsman in the world has weighed heavily on Brian Lara in recent months. A dearth of runs and lingering questions about his regard for the ethic of team-work have, at times, reduced him to a forlorn, befuddled figure.

The mood appeared to afflict him in the early stages of West Indies' tour of Australia and, even when the touring team's fortunes suddenly revived, it was Curtly Ambrose, the old warhorse, who lit the flame, his nine-wicket haul in the third Test at Melbourne cutting the series defect to 2-1. Lara contributed four runs

to that victory but, since then, he has seized the torch for himself and blazed a trail that Is leading his colleagues into territories they could not have considered three weeks ago.

Yesterday he struck his secand successive century in the tri-nation World Series tournament, His undefeated innings of 103 from 113 balls, compiled on a turning pitch that gave encouragement to the Pakistan spinners, was punctuated with a delicate series of leg glances and gliding strokes through the slips, as well as several glorious drives off his legs, all redolent of his 1994 peak.

The significance will not have been lost on the hosts. They know that they must win their next game, against West, Indies, at the Waca on Sunday, to have any chance of reaching the best of three final. Lara's man-of-the-match performance yesterday virtuqualification:

Having served notice of his intent with a vintage innings of 102 against Australia on Sunday. Lara showed restraint early on yesterday as he led West Indies' response to an apparently daunting total of 257. The impetus had been provided by Junior Murray, who garnered 62 from 66

balls, hitting one six and seven fours. Lara unleashed his more extravagant strokes towards the end of his stay. bringing up his century with a vicious pull through midwicket.

Murray may have been inspired by the need to atone for an error in the Pakistan innings, when he missed an easy stumping chance against ljaz Ahmed off Jimmy Adams. The spinner, in concert with Carl Hooper, had restricted the Pakistan batsmen, inducing a:reckless foray down the h by Ijaz that went unpun-

ished by Murray. Reprieved, Ijaz went on to reach 94, most of his runs aries in the final 12 overs. In contrast, Mohammad Wasim laboured for 105 balls in

Total (7 wids, 50 overs)

90MLNG: Watch 10-2-38-2; Bishop 8-1 80-0; Hooper 10-1-38-1; Thompson 9-1 48-1; Adams 8-1-52-1; Chanderpaul 3-0

WEST INDIES Campbell b Wasim Akram ... R Munay st Moin b Asmir .... BCMA.NG: Waster Alexen 10-Michammed Zehld 10-0-41-0; Michammed Zehld 10-0-41-0; Michiga 10-0-45-1; Agree Schell 53-1; Shehld Abtd. 8-0-62-0; lipz Alexend 2-0-6-1; lipz Alexend 4-0-4-0 Nein of the matofic & C Lar Umples: P D Parker shit R A Em

## Maradona proves he is not the retiring type

WELL it is certainly old friends week in this column. Marge Schott has expanded her relationship with the Jewish people. Rene Higuita, the winner of more goalkeeper-ofthe-week awards than you could shake a stick at. is retiring, and Diego is threatening once again to unretire when my agent comes out of

Schort, the turbulent owner of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team and Hitler apologist. has been treated for pneumonia in an establishment named The Jewish Hospital. One report stated that: "She is recovering and is in a stable condition for the first time in

Higuita has announced that, at 33: "I don't think I am physically able to compete at international level." Meanwhile, someone has bunged a hand-grenade into his house in Medellin, destroying the front. "It all seems so strange. I've never received threats and I have no enemies." One theory is that the blast prompted his retirement. another that it was the announcement of his retirement that prompted a distressed fan tu express his disappointment in this dramatic fashion.

Diego's agent, Giullermo Coppola, is likely to be released from prison soon. He was locked up after allegations that he allowed his house to be used for a drugs party. one allegedly attended by Diego. "We'll look together for a team where I can start playing again." Diego said.

#### Limited appeal

I have received more suggestions for an alternative name for the cricket-related pastime known as one-day cricket Adrian Brodkin suggests a name based on the pyjamas in which the game is played. Jim-Jam Bim-Bam. Rather less whimsically, Ray Dunnett, bearing in mind the recent performances of the England side, suggests

### Going West

I am delighted to announce that Hello! magazine is runa ning a four-page colour fea-ture on a West Hartlepool rugby union player. The name of the player, as you will no doubt have guessed already, is Liam Botham. He and his father, that wonderfully successful motivator of the England cricket team, appear in their Yorkshire home in a series of frightfully-country





On Saturday

and smartly-casually-snookering poses It seems a long way from Brierton Lane, legendary home of mighty West Hartle-pool. Here, life is a fraction

less cosy and glam. Liam's kit sponsors are Harry Tones, a Vauxhall dealer, and Keith Thomas Associates, business advice specialists. The scrum half is sponsored by Mason and Martin funeral directors. one of the flankers is supported by Britannia Fisheries; the No 8 is sponsored by Hartlepool Vasectomy Clinic.

#### Burgers barred

London readers will remember the sandwich-hoard-bear-ing man who used to inform cinema queues of the dangers of eating beans and sitting down. The United States appears to have spawned a millionaire reincarnation of the same man. Phil Sokolof. of Omaha, Nebraska, has taken out ads in a series of newspapers urging Tiger Woods, the golfing "phenomenon". not to sign a sponsorship deal with

"As a role model for miltions of Americans, don't encourage your generation and



mine to eat fatty, artery-clogging fast food. Please don't' Sokolof is a 74-yearold who made a fortune in manufacturing: he suffered a near-fatai heart attack in 1966. which he believes was caused by high cholesterol levels. But there is no McDonald's deal. nor any thought of one. Woods said: "My sponsor won't let me do that. I'm involved with the All Star Café." A plague on both your houses, say I.

#### On thin ice

Brick of the week: speed skating. I learn, is "beetles on a whirligig ... what is not interesting is speed-skating. This is because two skaters just skate around a track." It is hard for those who do not love the sport to disagree - but all the same, it was an unfortunate remark for Goro Yoshimura to make. He is. after all. Governor of Nacano. host city of the 1998 Winter

Hair apparent Regular readers of this colunin will no doubt recall the Italian footbailer who was suspended for responding to his red card by kissing the tfemalet referee. I near that Leonardo Ottanelli, of the third division under-21 side. Semigenese, has been suspended for three years. In the course of the match against San Lorenzo Campi. the hound approached the flemaler referce and pulled her

#### Lowest of the low Most anonymous letters are

rather tiresome, but not this one; perhaps my correspondent merely forgot to sign. He, or perhaps she, supplies a gloss on the magic number of 542 which regular readers will recall is the height above sea level of England's highest football ground, this being The Hawthorns, home of West Bromwich Albion.

I am offered, too late, alas, to reward him with champagne, the magic number of -2. I learn that Carrow Road. the home of Norwich City, is 2ft below sea level flike, he adds sadly, the team itself). Before the stupid corner infills, you could sit in the Barday End and watch sailing boats going along the Wensum; from the River End. good views of the castle and carhedral, i sometimes looked at the match." Quite so.

# Import policy continues to tax England selectors

By David Hands, Rugby correspondent

A bull of a man weighing THE England selectors have already had cause to lament the increasing number of overseas players occupying key tactical positions at the leading clubs this season; yester-day their number swelled by two when Bath concluded negotiations with German Lianes, of Argentina, and Richmond unveiled Steve Atherton, who has played eight times for South Africa.

John Kingston, the Richmond director of rugby, was swift to observe that Atherton, who was born in Gosport and moved to South Africa with his family when he was seven. carries a British passport. That, though, will cut little ice with the national management which would doubtless prefer to see Richard West acquiring as much experience in Richmond's second row as possible.

Atherton, 31, joins the Courage Clubs Championship second-division leaders on a 30-month contract, while Llanes. 38, moves from Milan to play with Bath for the next 18 months. He will join forces with his Argentinian colleague. Federico Méndez, who described him as "one of the world's best lineout forwards". Llanes has played international rugby since 1990 and his appearance against England last month was his

nearly 20st, he also demon-strated at Twickenham athleticism about the field that has been a hallmark of Bath forwards. He will offer his new club the most secure of platforms, as well as a readymade understanding with his hooker, Mendez, at the lineout. He will become available at the end of this month. whereas Atherton will make his debut, weather permitting, in the match against Newport

next Friday. Richmond, optimisic about joining England's elite next season, are already building for 1997-98. "We're aware of the quality of rugby played in the first division and our goal is to see appropriate European rugby at the Athletic Ground,"



Atherton: top quality

Kingston said. "To do that we have to look at quality players such as Steve Atherton. The big men here have had it easy in some respects this season, but now we have five challenging for four positions."

Atherton, 6ft 6in and 18st, last played for South Africa against New Zealand in August, but he has had more than 130 games for Natal, the Currie Cup holders, and that experience will rub off on hisnew colleagues. Meanwhile, one of his old colleagues, Thierry Lacroix, the France stand-off half, who spent two seasons with Natal, will provide Mike Catt with a stern examination on Carrs return to action with Bath

The first division clubs have made a concerted effort to beat the freezing weather and thus avoid a logiam of postponed league fixtures. Though Sale's game with Saracens has gone, other teams are optimistic that a combination of pitch covering and hot-air blowers will allow them to play, though there are pitch inspections at The Stoop, where Lacroix's team, Harlequins, play Bath, and the Bristol Memorial Ground, where Wasps are the visitors. Wasps will be without Simon Mitchell, their injured hooker, and Bristol have doubts over Simon Shaw, the England lock.

## Wales aspiring to soar above Eagles

RYGERALD DAVIES

two countries have played each other at Cardiff Arms Park. Since then the Eagles have appeared in the 1991. World Cup, but were denied a place in 1995 when Argentina qualified for South Africa.

The optimism of their breathless enthusiasts was still evident, though, "See y'all in Wales in '99," declared the message alongside the Stars and Stripes that decorated a corner of Ellis Park, Johannesburg. Today, with ten of their squad playing in Eng-land and Wales, might give an inkling of how far down the road towards that objective the Americans are.

This is an unprecedented sixth appearance by Wales this season before the five nations championship begins next weekend. Whether Wales, during this period, have advanced their cause remains in the balance. They beat the Barbarians and Italy. but lost to France, Australia and South Africa, against whom true measurement still has to be made.

Wales remain on a learning curve. They seem still to be developing as a team, not much else can be added with any conviction. Looking at the changes that have occurred,

WALES, who play the United has not yet settled to a firm States Eagles this afternoon, and predictable selection. won by 40 points in 1987 on Each constituent part has had the only other occasion the its changes; faces come and go its changes; faces come and go or are to be found in different places. Since the first outing in August, against the Barbar-ians, only four players have been constant factors: Evans, Howley, Loader and

Liewellyn.

Those who have returned to union from league seem to be settling in comfortably. Gibbs — who has been handed the captaincy because Humphreys is suspended and Bateman have provided stability in midfield. Young would appear to do the same at prop. Much, therefore, is expected of the re-emergence of Scott Quinnell, whose splendid try against France offered such promise in 1994.

That developing rugby countries are no longer the pushovers they once were should not alter the fact that Wales need a comprehensive victory this afternoon. This would boost their confidence before travelling to Edin-

burgh next weekend.

WALES J Thomas; Beans, A Sateman, S
Gibbs (captain), G Thomas; A Thomas, R
Houley; C Loader, G Jerlans, D Young, G
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Williams. John, C. Cushes, G. Schell, S. Williams, Y. Andoni, F. Williams, S. Alfest, M. Scharrenberg, B. Hightower, M. Alexander, A. Bachelet, R. Leiner, T. Billups, S. LuClerc, C. Yogi, A. Pariser, D. Lyle (captain), R. Lumiong, J. Wilkerson, Replacements, C. Lippan, S. Allen, J. Wilkerson, B. Howard, E. Scharre, C. Morrine, Refereer, L. Meyner (Ireland).

this is as it must be. The team FOR THE RECORD 

### BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN LEAGUE Second preim-rary round: Group E. Charletti (Bol. 68 Second: Man 71, Olympaters Gol. 82 CDFA Moscos 51 Abs Ervin 70 Massab-12 Am 56 Group F. User Son (Mr.) Son., June 11 Panamas (Gr.) 72 Son., June 11 Panamas (Gr.) 72 Cook, Zagreb (Dro) 77 Parsonas (Gr) 77 Teamonds (Gr) 77 Teamonds (Buspan (Br) 98 Limages (Gr) 98 Earl dentes Madrid 95 Group & Dvn amo Moscose 88 Planathresias (Gr) 91 Group M. Raccoston of Yandon Belgrade (Mug) 75 Panton Belgrade (Mug)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Toronto 110 Urah 95, Minnorati 110 New Jersey 107, Allunta 97 Orlando 92 (OT), Gorden 51019 102 y mozeuvar 86 CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Kimberley (one day) Growland West 276-7 NV M One 72, 9 M Sumerd 544 Indiana 276-3 (SIC Garryshy 111 SIR 1-indulian 51) Indiana with bi-12 S. R. Trindulkar 51) Indians will by John William Schille D. Sydney (second day of June 1995) SHEFFIELD SHIELD Sydney (second day of June 500 mg of our Worsern Australia 224 (5 S. Hodge 57) B.E. Mediamars 5-75). Mediamare case of day of lour 1 samana 53 flate D.J. Marsh 97 D.C. Boon 75 M.P. Symon 50 mg of our 1 samana 53 flate D.J. Marsh 97 D.C. Boon 75 M.P. Symon 50 mg of flate 1. Surphiamare 20 Additional first day of flate 1. Surphiamare 120 Additional first day of flate 1. Surphiamare 125 mg on J.D. Sudnara 61, M.P. Faul 50 y / Quiperskind Sympasy PORT SERGES flat day of flate, Continuon, Nathern Transitional 191-3 (S. J. Sommerskind St. Port 1914).

DARTS FRINLEY GREEN Embossy world championiship. Charter finals: 14 James (Males) or A Carter (US) 4-3 S Boston English Lauren (Be) 4-3 FOOTBALL.

POSTPONED: Gittert League of Water: Newtown v Llansantinad Thursday's late results AVON RISURANCE COMEINATION League Gup. Caudit D Bratel Cry 3.
POMINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Promier descent Bot to 1 Detty Count 1
SPANISH CUP. There round, first leg: Real Valuabed 1

CARLSBAD, Cattornia, Mercedes Cham-CARLSBAD, California, Mercodes Champornships: Leading first-round scores (United State): unless statical 68: 1 Lehman 67 P. Goycas, J. Funk, 69: G. Boros, J. Goornari, F. Caubier, 70, D. Live, J. Cock, T. Woods, S. Jones, T. Walson, C. Pauri, P. Szarkovski, S. McCarren, 71; M. Static, P. Roberts, Fro. D. Hert, C. Rose, L. Roberts, C. Statier, P. Matheison, M. O'Slegar, 72: E. S. S. S. Statier, N. Falco, (GS), M. Brooks

champions fournament: Leading Brest-round scores (Linted States unless stat-ch 98 N Weath (Hus), 72 8 Whitehead, C. Pomo IGBI, B. Mucha, E. Daniel, D. Coe-Jones, P. Bradter, A. Screnstein (Swo), 73 Danies (GB), D. Pobper, I. Neumann (Swo), M.McGarn, N. Lopez, J. Lichack, R. Jones, A. Nicholss, Gill. HOCKEY

EDINBURGH. Four nations indoor tourna-ment: Scotland 6 North America 5, Australia 4 South Alrea 4 Final standings: 1, Scotland, 2, Australia, 3, South Africa, 4, North America. ICE HOCKEY

SUPERLEAGUE: Neuronate 1 Notingham O Cardin 3 Shefseld 2: (NHL): Boston 5 Natricel 4: Colorsot 2 Ottavia 6, Tampe Bay 3 Philadelphia 1, Washington 2 NY Rangera 6, Calcell 5 Phomps 4 (OT); Colgany 3 Haritard 2, Los Angeles 6 Buttato 3 St Louis 4 San Jose 3. MOTOR RALLYING

DAKAR-AGADES-DAKAR RALLY: Such stage (Gao to Monaka) Care: 1. K Stranzaka (Japan, Mittabesh) 3tr 14mm Saec, 2. JF Fortenay (Fr. Masucach) 42f; 4, J Kenschmidt (Gar, Buggr) 1711; 5, H Masucach (Japan, Mittabesh) 1928. Overall, 1 Shrinzaka 27tr (2mm Saec, 2 Fortenay at 23 3, Saby 415; 4, Masucha (123 29; 5 S Servia Gp. Nissan) 253 52

Motorcycles: 1, S Peierhensel (Fr. Yernehe) 3rt 25mn 53ser; 2, T Megneldi (Fr. KTM) et 201; 3, J Arcteron (Sp. KTM) 455; 4 eguel J Lewis (US. KTM) and O Gellerdo (Sp. Cagna) 728 Ower8t; 1, Peterhensel 25m 19min 51ser; 2, Arcteron; et 1:1524; 5, D Gatasto 2:06:13, 4, Lewis 2:1524; 5, D Castera (Fr. Yernehe) 2:19:28. RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Wigan St Judes 14 Wigan Rose Bridge 24. SWIMMING

PEKING: World Cup short-course meet-ing: Merc 800m treestyle: 1, 1 Wisson (GB) 7min 55.04sec; 2, J Bucsir (Sibventa) 8:04.60; 3, Xie Xuleng (China) 8:10.18. TABLE TENNIS

KETTERING: English Open: Round-robin qualitying: Sien is singlise; Second stage: 1 Columbra (Japan) to A Eden (Engl 2022) 21-16, 17-21, 21-10, 21-13; E Welser (Scot) by T. Kehneth. (See) 13-21. 21-18; 21-19, 21-1

Chetelan (Fr) bit T Kahrath (Ger) 16-21.
21-12. 21-19. 19-21. 28-26. K Langerov (Austral) bit A Cooles (Eng) 21-13. 22-20.
21-12. S Cadiesal (Fr). bit E Marssenva (Japan) 18-21. 21-13. 21-14. Macrosol (Japan) 18-21. 21-13. 21-14. 10-21. 21-14. 21-15. 21-15. 21-15. 21-17. 10-21. 21-12. 21-12. M Macrosol (Den) bit J Kehn (Hott) 17-21. 21-13. 21-15. 21-11. 18-01. (Ger) bit J Schopp (Sp) 21-12. 21-10. 27-25. Women's singless: Third stage. M Seasontol (Japan) bit L Lomas (Eng) 21-13. 17-21. 25-20. 21-19. 5 baldsine (Fluss) bit R Saksto (Japan) pt L Lomas (Eng) 21-13. 17-21. 25-20. 21-19. 5 baldsine (Fluss) bit R Saksto (Japan) pt Cool by 18-21. 21-11. 19-21. 21-11. 19-21. 21-12. 21-12. 17-00. (Japan) bit Charles (Ger) 21-13. 21-14. M Housen (Japan) bit Charles (Ger) 21-14. M Housen (Hott) in Pan Li Charl (Indexen) 21-11. 21-12. 19-21. 21-19. P Petterson (Swe) bit P Zhang (Fr) 28-24. 21-19. 7 Fairming (Illiman) in M Mail (Floi) 21-11. 21-12. 21-16. N Novel (Ger) 21-15. 21-19. 21-19. N Novel (Ger) bit K Nighting (Fin) 21-15. 21-19. 21-19. N Novel (Ger) bit K Nighting (Fin) 21-15. 21-19. 21-19. N Nighting (Fin) 21-19. 21-19. 21-19. N Nighting (Fin) 21-19. N Nighting (Fin

TENNIS

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# Lara lead the way! Promising

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THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997

# Sampras and Graf remain focused as rivals succumb

By DAVID MILLER

AS ANOTHER year commences with the Australian Open on Monday, and with the game ever more intens-ified, it is doubtful if any player can ever emulate the achievement of Don Budge, Maureen Connolly, Rod Laver (twice), Margaret Court and Steffi Graf, who won all four grand-slam titles in one year. The tournament in Melbourne is already ravaged by withdrawals, the crowded pressure of the calendar stretching players beyond physical limits.

Yevgeny Kalehikov, the French Open champion, from Russia, who was seeded fourth, withdrew yesterday, having broken a bone in his hand during gymnasium work. He had to give Pete Sampras, the top seed in Melbourne, a walkover to the final in the Kooyong Classic. His replacement as No 4 seed is MaliVai Washington, the Wimbledon finalist last year.

Also absent will be Andre Agassi, who remains short on motivation even though he has said that he will compete for United States in the Davis Cup; Richard Krajicek, the Wimbledon champion, after knee surgery; Todd Martin, the 1994 finalist, with tendonitis: Cedric Pioline, of France, with a back injury; and Jason Stoltenberg, of Aus-

tralia, after wrist surgery. Thomas Enqvist, 22, the Swede who is seeded No.8, pulled out of the Kooyong event with infected blisters, but hopes to recover in time for Melbourne. Jim Courier. the champion of 1992 and 1993, who slumped in the rankings last year but is intent on regaining a position of prominence, is bothered by

a hamstring strain. Such is the depth of the men's game that any of the top players can unexpectedly fall to a lesser name, which is good for the sport, yet makes it unlikely that a top player can win more than a couple of grand-

slam events in any one year. The Melbourne organisers must be hoping for the survival of their top seeds, Sampras and Graf, with the possibility of two intriguing finals: Sampras against Boris Becker, the defending champion. and Graf, pursuing her fifth Australian and 21st grand-slam title, against Martina Hingis, 16, the naturalised Swiss from the former Czecho-slovakia, who is needed No 4.

Sampras, who is drawn to meer a qualifier in the first round, will uncomfortably recall his exit last year, when he went out in straight sets to Mark Philippoussis, the big-serving Greek-Australian, who this year comes up

Mark Petchey and Andrew Richardson are one match away from reaching the Australian Open after victories in the second qualify-ing round in Melbourne yesterday. Petchey beat Des Tyson, of Australia, 6-2, 6-3 and Richardson beat Alejandro Hernandez, of Mexi-

against Tim Henman, the Briton, in the opening round. Sampras, who has the prospect of meeting Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa, in the quarter-final, and Goran vanisevic, Courier or Thomas Muster in the semi-final, is in optimistic mood.

"Last year, with no disrespect to Philippoussis, I was not well when I came to Australia following the Davis Cop lagainst Russia in Mos-cow, but this year I'm really ready and eager," he said. Sampras and Becker met in two of the most memorable

matches of last year, in the ATP world championship finals in Hanover in November, Becker winning at the round-robin stage, Sampras winning a gruelling, spectacular five-set final. This is a

potentially epic final; both are in the right frame of mind. The impression is that Becker is, nowadays, playing primarily for his own satisfaction. "I don't feel any pres-sure," he said yesterday. The most important thing, espe-cially at this stage of my career, is to enjoy every day of your life as a tennis professional. After winning Wimbledon at 17 or 18, there was nothing really left to prove, so enjoyment always became important." He has admitted. however, that his ambition before retiring in a few years' time is to reach, once more, the No I ranking position. "That is always the ultimate dream," he has said. His semi-final is

the final last year.
The durability of Graf against a background of repet-tive and variable injuries. together with the anguish of her father's prosecution for alleged tax fraud, is remarkable. At times last year she played supreme tennis, particularly when taking three of the grand-slam titles after missing the Australian event. "The one thing I don't have trouble with is motivating myself," Graf said. There is no chance of a final against Monica Seles, the champion, Seles having been obliged to withdraw with a broken finger.

scheduled to be against Mich-

ael Chang, whom he beat in

For Hingis - who took Graf to five outstanding sets in the WTA finals in New York in November - to reach the final, it is likely that she must defeat the recovering former teenage protégé, Jennifer Capriati, in the quarter-final, and Arantra Sánchez Vicario in the semi-final. There are two absorbing first-round matches: Anna Kournikova, the young Russian, against Amanda Coetzer, of South Africa, the No 12 seed, and Mary Pierce, the troubled champion of 1995, against Elena Likhovtseva, who



Graf, the top seed at the Australian Open, has shown remarkable fortitude

#### AUSTRALIAN OPEN SINGLES DRAW

Number in brashess demotes seetung
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(1) P. Semonae (US) v quelifer; A Vonnee
(Flore) v H Deselmann (Ger), M Woodlonde
(Flore) v H Tebbus (Aus). H Gurry (Ang) v D
Senoychrev (Bul), S Soole (Aus) v D Hibary
(Stowaus); M Kuthi (Swe) v K Alami (Mor); T
Carbonnel (So) v D Vacole (Cc); T Landrem
(Aus) v (16) A Benosategor (So); (10) A
Coste (So) v D Roller (Aus); J Tundrem
(Aus) v (16) A Benosategor (So); (10) A
Coste (So) v P Roller (Aus); J Westle,
(Stovales) v A Gencieno (Br); A Radulencus
(Sol) v S Disper (Aus), F Demail (Sel) v
queliler; P Temmachi (Bus) v J win Herch
(Bo); Clusifier v R Fridan (B); P Cesh (Aus) v
J Frens (Ang); C Coste (So) v (B) W Ferreros
(SA); (3) G harmsteine (Cr) v B Elemond
(Aus); P Heartruit, (Flore) v K Kuonne
(Stovales); Queliter v J Novek (Cc); C
Woodnell (US) v M Norman (Swe); M
Bilstrom (Swe) v G Kuotten
(Stovales); Queliter v J Romer (US); J
Semerink (Holl); E Trust (Hor) v (13); J
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Siemerink (Holl); E Trust (Hor) v (14); S
Schalter (Hol); G Frign) Ff1 v S Dosessi
(Cc); M Rosset (Swet) v J Sánchez (So); J
Tarango (LS) v quelter; J P Houren (Fr); y H
Auszi (Hor); Cunsider v S Lusten (Cor); J
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T Muster (Husten); (S) B Beclar (Ger) v C
Moye (So); P Molimore (US) v A Olhovskiy
(Pluss); T Johnerson (Swet) v M Demm (Cc); B
Ullivach (Cc) v J Bioneren (Swet) v M Aussin Goniz (So);
M Göther (Ger) v M Aussin Goniz (So); G
Russderen (Swet) v M Aussin Goniz (So); G
Russderen (Swet) (H) v Reselver (Ser) v V
A O'Bren (US); G Doyle (Aus) v (12) M
Gustaleson (Swet) (H) v Reselver (Ser) v F
Assignance (Ser) (H) v queller; L Hous (Fr) v

J Stark (US), Quaction v T Woodendge (Aus); S Schar, Fri v G Stonco (Sp., S Sangson (Arm) v M Orchista (Sk); Outsider v Hi M Washington (Us); (F) T Enquest (Swe) v N Penera (Ven). B Steven (MC) v R Fromberg (Aus); Qualifier v S Biuguera (Sp.), M Lanston (Swe) v J-A Wildea (Sp.); Qualifier v G Schaller (Austra), Qualifier v A Cometic (Sp.); M Joyce (US) v R Canetero (Sp.); P Konda (Ca) v R) M Riss (Chie); (Tis) M Schoo (Ca) v R) M Riss (Chie); (Tis) M Schoo (Ga) v P Frodhisson (Swe), T Champion (Fi) v A Medivelov (Us), Qualifier v qualifier; D ven Scheppingen (His) v B Back (Zm.), G Recox (Fi) v D Nestor (Can), M Philipposass (Aus) v Qualifier

(1) S Graf (Gerl v J Hussrova (Slovakat): E
Dommitune (Aus.) v L. Nailand (Letvin). I
Gonochalacus (Arg) v S Steeler (Aus.). E
Callens (Bel) v G Fernandez (US): L Lae
(US) v B Inhie (Blovalean): F Zuhaga (Col) v
qualifier: J Kandari (Ger) v K Nagasinules
(Japari): A Koumiture (Puss): v (12) A
Deceler (SA): (10) B Schulz-McCarriy
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(Japari): V. Richizmova (Cz): G Lison Garea
(Sp): v K Por (US). C Cristee (Porti): v M-A
Sungama (Japari): J Taylor (Aus.): v M-A
Signitus (Serzo (So): T Tanasungam (Inai)
v E Matarrova (Puss): K Sundemkova
(Slovaka): v F Periotti (I): N Dechy (Fri v (7)
L Dawengori (US): (3) C Martinez (So) v M
Ourrans Front: S Doctor (Ausmat) v A Gers
(Cz): A Ciriston (Sev): v L Langova (Cz): P
Hy-Boutais (Can): v A Dachaume-Ballenet

(Fr), N Avendri (US) v K Boogert (Hell); R Grande (N) v A Montolox (Sp); A Grassman (US) v M Maler (US), H Subara (CV) v (16) S Appelments (Rein); (13) E Listhoutsawa (Russy) v M Person (Fr); C Chen (Chang) v N Mackyadeva (Uko), Dusifiar v M Werdel (US), A Delwood (Aus) v L McMell (US), N Zentrera (Bela) v N Father (Bet); S Carce (US) v W Protest (Ger); F Luthara (tt) v R McCullan (Aus), A Fezzar (US) v (S) A Huber (Ger); (S) I Sprilea (Rom) v N I (Gernata (US); W M McCullan (Austra); A Cusca (Po) v S Farris (II), J Capnati (US) v J Watanacha (US); Whige (Sh); C Monton (US); W N Brandhe (Aus); S Talaga (Cro) v (S) K Hubsudova (Slovahas); (11) J Wasanacha (US); V N Brandhe (Aus); S Talaga (Cro) v (S) K Hobsudova (Slovahas); (11) J Wasanacha (US) v N Brandhe (Aus); S Talaga (Cro) v (S) K Hobsudova (Slovahas); (11) J Wasanacha (US) v N Brandhe (Aus); P Baggarow (Ger) v custifier (Gra) v qualifier, P Baggarow (Ger) v custifier (Gra) v qualifier, P Baggarow (Ger) v custifier (Gra) v P Sannyar (Sovahas); N Ramond (US); A Fusia (Ang) v M Erico (Japan); Dusifier v Lonkova (CC), Qualifier v S Pritouskova (Slovahas); S Testud (Fr) v Ewingovar (Ger); R Syubskova (Slovahas); S Testud (Fr) v Ewingovar (Ger); K Adams (US) v Qualifier, V Brandhe (Monaco), Y Bassula (Monaco), Y Bas

BOXING

## Akinwande needs win to enhance credibility

By Srikumar Sen Boxing correspondent

IT WILL need an impressive performance from Akinwande when he defends his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) heavyweight title against Scott Welch, of Brighton, in Nashville, Tennessee, tonight to convince British boxing fans that he is truly world class.

Since the WBO heavyweight championship is very much a second-division competition and Welch has yet to acquire international recognition, the bout will be seen as little more than a British championship unless Akinwande can show that Welch is not really in his league. Akinwande will need a spectacular finish or a onesided points win to prove this.

Those who know the champion say it will be one-way traffic and that the 6ft 7in Akinwande, who has an 82inch reach, will pick off Welch with a stinging jab before knocking him out with a right. Welch says he knows how to avoid the leading hand. "Just go for him as Mike Tyson would, don't stand there at the end of his lead or he'll stick it in your face all night," he said.

The champion's chin has never been tested; nobody has caught him with a full-blooded blow. If Weich can slip past the left and land a right cross. the contest could dramatically change in his favour.

On the undercard is a potentially explosive contest between Kevin Lueshing, of Beckenham, and Felix Trinidad, who holds the International Boxing Federation welterweight title. Lueshing is not in the same class as the Puerto Rican, who is unbeaten in 30 contests, but the Englishman has a puncher's chance. Colin McMillan, the former WBO featherweight champion, continues his comeback

Chris Eubank will be back in the ring on February 27 for a title bout in Dubai. It is the first of a series of contests he plans to have in the Gulf state.

tonight against a tough oppo-nent in Paul Ingle, of Scarbor-

ough, at York Hall, Bethnal

IN BRIEF

## **Financial** troubles increase at **Hull KR**

**HULL Kingston Rovers were** yesterday served a winding-up perition by the Inland Revenue for an unpaid bill of nearly £250,000. The action comes shortly before the club's application to the High Court in Leeds on Monday to be put in the hands of administrators. in order to reduce debts reportedly approaching (1) million (Christopher Irvine writes).

The plight of the second division champions is a warning to Wigan, themselves nearly (3 million in the red, of how the mighty can fall. Wigan have the opportunity at a shareholders' meeting today to clear their debts and build on solid financial support. Shareholders will be asked to give their recommendation to the Wigan board on three options, including the sale of Central Park, which could put up to £7 million into the club

#### Scots hopeful

Hockey: Scottish hopes of winning the World Cities in-door tournament in Glasgow have risen after successes in the DTZ international tournament at Kidderminster and the outdoor Los Reyes event in Barcelona, At the Kelvin Hall today and tomorrow, eight teams will take part in what could be the forerunner to the first world indoor championship. Five cities, Canberra, Johannesburg, Copenhagen, Madrid and Glasgow have selected their respective nat-ional teams for the event.

#### Craig decides Cycling: Nick Craig will make

a last-moment decision on whether to defend his British Open cyclo-cross championship at Sutton Coldfield tomorrow after suffering a heavy cold.

#### Team game

Bowls: Europe's leading players will be invited to test their skills in a new competition, the Guernsey European team championship, to which eight teams will be invited next September.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

First-round replay Clayton v Normanton... Second round

Mayfield v Eccles ....... University Moldgreen v Durham University Quiton v Ideal ABI......

BRK v Egremont
Dudley Hill v Dewabury Moor (2:30) ...
Hull Dockers v Eastmoor
Leads University v Thatro Heath
Lock Lane v Heworth
Millord v East Leads ...

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Pire division: Askern v Leigh East, Barrow Island v Thomas Second division: Postponed: Feature anno Armidou v Svin Cross

OTHER SPORT

BOWLIR: Devery Cup: Sooth round: Com-bridge Path's Presson; Cay of Ely v Barfarg Snisto 'v Bodmar, Starley v York-Desboraugh v Dorchester; Cythera v Earl Dorse; Thomaby v Hull; Ningshorpe v North Welsham.

## COMPREMENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES FOOTBALL Sections v Coshintre; Convellain-Canuals v Crypthadi, Cove v Authorit, Familien v Raynes Pail Male; Godalming and Galicland v Fatherer, March Casuals v Interphan; Westfield v Sanchards. MINSTRYM. SOUTH V MIDLANDS: LENGTH. Parmain reliation: Rainford v Marchander.

FA Certing Premiership (1) Aston Vills v Newcestle (2) Blackburn v Coventy ... Leadii V Leicetia Liverpool v West Hem Middesbrough v Southampton Notingham Porest v Chelses Sheffeld Wednesday v Everton Vaccinati Conference

" not including last night's matches Second division (19) Blackpool v Luson (20) Bournemouth v Rotherham (21) Bristol City v Burnley

(26) Piwmouth y Crewe

UNLET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First

 Beth v Morscambe
 Bramsgrove v Stalybridge
 Dover v Stalybridge
 Dover v Stalybridge
 Galashead v Tellord
 Hayes v Stevenage
 Hednestard v Rodermineam
 Macclesdeid v Working
 Northwich v Kattering
 Rushriden & Diamonds v Hailites
 Slough v Famborough
 Welling v Albrindsam Ber a Scotte Langua Premier division First division (44) Clydebarik v St Minen (45) Dundee v Airdrie (46) Greenock Morton v East Fife (47) Stirling v Fallerk Second division Tennents Scottlish Gup Second round East String v Bross
 Ross Coursy v Montrose
 Spartans v Aptoeth (20)
 Stranger v Inverses CT
 Whitehall v Queen of South (2.0) 

SCIB LEAGUE: Promier dishilant Chertesy v
Purfeet; Department and Rechtidige v Boreham Wood; Dulvich v Enflett; Grays v
Stather; Hencich v Yesteing; Highen v Seston
United; Ningstonen v Henriow; SI Alband v
Bishop? Secritical: Postpound: Entreliey v
Youvi, Centrusten v Ayleabury; Orderd Caly v
Haylerings Plast dishibut. Abonglant Town
Bishorsey; Aldershot Town v Chestrant;
Barton Rovies v Bognor Regist: Bastryashov v
Whyleisesie; Berthanswed v Tooting and
Mitchen; Croydon v Theren; Hemplon v
Layton Parasint; Medianhaad United v
Mothesy; Martin v
Mothesy; Harlow v Wolkingham; Welson and
Mitchen; Croydon v Theren; Hemplon v
Layton Parasint; Medianhaad United v
Mothesy; Harlow v
Mothesy; Martin and
Mitchen; Croydon v
Layton Parasint; Medianhaad
V Lighton Town: Horstram v
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Horstram v
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Hoodenday Town: Bedfington Tentes v
Duriston FB; Bemerton Heast v
Colleger; Woldschor v
Bartings v
Hoodenday Town: Bedfington Tentes v
Duriston FB; Bemerton Heast v
Coll Row and
Rovinod; Concord Rangers v
Whotsaide
Town; Guisborough Town v
Routperend; Hallon v
Northwood;
Margonified United; Bosens v
Vonnatin Town v
Durham (1 30t; Whitby v
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Remin MINETRIA ECRITH MICHANIZE LENCILEPremier divisios: Bedford v Hoddeedon; 
Begdesweet v Weinyn Garden; Langlad v 
Herpenden; Poters Ber v Tocklingen 
O'Brien-Archeersde Sparts v Budenghern Antietic; 
London Colvey v Royston 
IEMSCHE BESTEPH COUNTIES LEARLIE: 
Premier dinator: Heated v Heddegh U, 
Harveth and Palvanier v Sudbury Res; 
Soham v Werboye; Stowarmfal v March; 
Budbury v Felumiem, Waten v Felumiem en 
Amstrumi.EAD ICENT LEARLIE: Premi invision Counties of the Palvanier 
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Pere Walanting v Barratect, Samonago
Harri
Harri
LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE Premier
chistoric Asserctum v. Hängdon Bons;
Berkingside v Waliham Abbey, Codolosiers v.
S. Marganistrucy, Croydon v Isington S.
Mays; Harriedi v Woodbuch; Harefield v
Bauconsided SYCOB; Ruistip Meno.

SI Margueristatur, Croydon v Istration SI Marys, Harwell v Woodbuct, Harefeld v Beaconstead SYCOB; Russip Marior v Branchon Res SCHESFO, DIRECT LAALE: Premiar christon: Briston V Tomnobart, Chippenham v Bristol Marior Fannt: Chard v Bideford; Britone v Bridgewister, Paulion R v Calme; Wessbury v Backwell.

LENGCH WESSEX LEAGUE: Fina deviation Townov V Bookwell.

LENGCH WESSEX LEAGUE: Fina deviation Townov Dominion. Amountuments v Gosport: Bourremouth v East Cower, Brockerhurst v Whitchurch, Christonium of Potenticular, Cower Sports v Ryde Sports; Eastbligh v Andover, Romany v Potensfeld.

HELLENG LEAGUE: Premier divisions. Amondelbury v Endesingh; Survivors v Brackley; Dictor v Seirndon Supermittine; North Leigh v Tulling; Wentage v fündutry.

**FOOTBALL** 

Backentent,

HALPOHT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE;

Premer division: Bourne y Boston;

Desboough y Kempstor: Holsbeach y

Egnesbury: Long Buckby y Northampton

Spenser, Mirnhee Blacksont y Viscotion;

Newport Pagnell y Stotistic Politics of Foot

Sports: S and L Corby v St Noote

INTERLIER; EXPRESS ALLAMOZE Boto
more St M y Stovach Town, Bridgmarth y Knyperelly Y, Chestown y Witerhelt;

Helessowen H y Rustnal C: Citchury U y 

Strings T: Pelsell V y Belleenhalt; Superhill y 
Smalest T; W Mid Palice i Rocarder 

ENDSLEIGH INSURPANCE MIDLAND CONTENTING College, Meszey Feguson y 

Bothell S; Stringy y Handarten Timbon, 
Southern y Cavel (Loyd; Welsebourne y 

Right Frenth, Woordster y Wentherth Copp: Feath, Morcaster y Wentherth Copp: Feath Ty T y Devision, Gennal Res y Crafley Town, tye Town y Walsall Wood; Melwern T y Bloometh S, Stelland T y 
Sourpoin S, Wednesseld y Tiestall, Wolve
Irang S, Wednesseld y Tiestall, Wolve
Hill Tork Hill Ten R. Hill Top R.

MORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First divisors: Blackpool Rovers v Clareroe. Burscough v Esselvood H; Derwer v Rossendeler, Holler Old Boys v Gloscop North End, Marre Road v Chadonnor, Salbort v Perville, Trafficial v Athenor Collectes, Ridsgrove v Vaulatal GM, Preson Collectes V St Helens, Cupr Second round: Brode v Neuscastin Town.

ARTHURAM LIBARITE: Premier deliverer. Brogst. v Wildelms, Fowesters v Brondoods; Lehnang v Chagellens, Reportenars v TOMORROW

Rehalf 3.0 unless seem FA Carling Premierable Tottenhern v Mancheeler Linked (4.0) ... Heliconide Langue First division Wolverhampton v West Bromwich (2.10) Self's Scotlett Langua Premier division Rangers v Aberdeen ....

Rangers v Aberdeen
Fal HARP LAGER CLIP: Rest Round; Codic v
Godwing 2.00; Gerden v Droghodo (2.00;
(Ricerny v Bohemiens (2.15); Shannook v
Linsetck; (1.15); Volevieur Stankili v
Rockmount (2.01; Wayatde C v Firm Harpe
(2.01; Wahehali v Dundalk (2.01)
IJK LUNNG WOMENTS FA CLIP: Rounds
recard: Assend v Berry, Chelmelond v
Huddensteld; Chelsen v Millerell, Croydon v
Luespool; Concasier v Stepfield Wadmesday;
Gassanood/St. Helene v Resston; Highfield v
Berthamareth Prosecn it v Dentant Reading
v Layton Orient; Sterbound v Eventor;
Southampton v Witsstank; Sookpool v
Bengor; Godenham v Coller R; Tremmen v
Wernbley, Postponech Asson Villa v Bilghlore;
Ipsench v Middestrough. BRIGER TIMION Walth Langue First division Ebbw Vole v Lignelli (2.30) ...... RUGBY LEAGUE Carlsia v Sarrow (2.0)
Feetherstone v Humster (3.50)
Hull v Oldham (3.0)
Leigh v Swetton (3.0)
St. Heiers v Wigim (3.0)

HOCKEY HOCKEY

MIDOOR CLUS CHAMPIONSHIP: Prailminay rounds: At Purtiswall, Vibrostier:
Cannock vi Harborne (10 0); York CS Tropuss
9 Feebrands: 105 50; Concaster vi Huli
(11.40); York CS Tropuse v Cannock (12.30),
Huli v Harborne (1.20); Frobrands v
Doncaster (2.10); At Earl Grivshoot, East
Grivshoot v Blacksta (10.0); issa v Reading
(10.50); 3: Albans v Old Loughtoners
(1) 40); taca v East Gansteed (12.30), Old
Loughtoners v Blacksta (12.0); Reading v
St Albans (2.10). Loughprotons v Bluebarts (1.20); Resoling v. St Abbrie (2.10). NOPALD CITTES IMDIDOR TOURBAMENT (Kakin Hall, Glasgow): Physills (9.30). MEEY'S CLUB MARCH: Hourstow v Teckington (12.30). MIDLAND WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Badford v MDC/MVD WOMBER'S LEMISORE GROOM A Albridge, Kedlering v Prohvolch Lacestler II v North Stalls; West Bromwich v Herryston, WCMMBA'S COUNTY MATCH: Safforthise v Lacestante (Stone), WDOMBA'S CLUB MATCH: Snellistic v

OTHER SPORT BASIGTBALL: Budowiner Languar Staffield v Hamel and Wadord (5:30); Leopards v Neocastie (7:0) Matorial Languar Ment Flux chielen: Guidtord v Odord (6:0); Sacdens v Soleni (6:0), Wicrosen: Flux chiesion; Transas Yolioy v Hardiampson (4:0). Firstly Crami)

SE HOCKET: Superhague: Newcastle v
An (630); Manchester v Basingsteine (630);
Sjedvreit v Sheftele (630);
TABLE TENNIS: English Open (at Killburg)
VOLEY/BALL: Microll Langual: Mant, First,
christer: London v Loverhorough (1,30);
Gaudiand v Belgreen Muse: Cay (2,30);
Shringham v Enert (12,48); Opingkim v
Shellield Wednesstey (2,50)

NONTHERON COUNTIES EAST LEASUE Prenties division: Arroid + Portilated Cols. Densiby A sanited, Glasshoughton Welfare v Metiby MNY, Hallem v Belber Town: Hoseld Main v Selley, Laviredge v Brag Town: Ossell: Fown v Ossell Albern, Pickering v Annthrope Welfare. Thacking v Sherifeld.

PEDEPLITCH. BESMERY MORTINGEN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham v Morpeth, Crosser v-Estered v West Auskland; Crook v Esteration: Estered v West Auskland; Crook v Esteration: Risk Start She Auskland; Crook v Esteration: Risk Sherifeld. First division: Billingham v Morpeth, Sanitom Hell Star v Bair Sheks.

IDUITY EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Polygonia V Southerne. Polygonia: v Norwers, Levino Powers v Igentory. Polygonia: v Norwers, Levino Powers Path Rangers v West Henry Windord V Toylenham & Counties of Vincenham v Record division: Totterham v Residing. (11.0), Postponed. Burnat v Bournstroners, Crystal Palace v Southernptor, Luton v Cotchester, Oxford Und v Bristol Rovers; Swindon v Breat City, Windbedon v Brystland, Wycombe v Brighton.

IMPROOFF PISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards v Portadown; Cithorwise v Coleanna, Glansway v Briston.

IMPROOFF PISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards v Portadown; Cithorwise v Coleanna, Glansway v Resident. Biglymena v Distillery, Camelx v Newsy, Larne v Ballycland. Ornach v Bangor.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: First severe Colin Rovers v Stop (7.15), Deny v Crumin V V Coleanna, Glansway v Roy, Camel v Norschuller v Roy, Camel v Roy, Camel v Roy, Camel v Norschuller v Roy, Camel v Roy, Camel

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby v London (7:30), Leicester v Shoffletd (7:30) Manchester v Worthing (7:30): Birmingtern v Crester (7:30): Hamel and Webord v Crystall Pulace (7:30), Timenes Vulley v Leopards 4:30, Number Cart Busher Chester (7.30) Hammel and Watbord v Crystall Palaboe (7.30), Tharmes Valley v Loopards (8.0); National Lasquer, Metr. First division Bury and Botton v Westmanster (7.30); Guild-tond v Waha (8.0); Leeppoid v Med Sucses, (3.30); Nothergharin v Cardill (8.0); Choron Bury Proposition v Covering (7.30); Womers, Plant Chellon v Covering (7.70); Womers, Plant Chellon v Berthargharin v London (4.0); Crystall Palabor v Berthargharin v London (4.0); Crystall Palabor v Berthargharin (5.0); Hartesiden v Ipolech (7.0); Northamption v Spetthorne (6.0); Tharmes Valley v Rhondda (5.46), Sherffield v Mollangham (6.0). HOCKEY

MOCKEY

BIDDOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Preliminary rounds: At Perdawell, Warcestlar:
Carriack v Frebrands (11 30), Dorcaster v
Harborne (12.20), Hull v York CS Troins (11 10), Dorcaster v
Carriack v Frebrands (11 30), Dorcaster v
Harborne v Frebrands (5 20), Frebrands v Hull (2.50), Hurborne v York CS Troins (11 40), Frebrands v Frebrands (5 20), York CS Troins (14 20), Tork CS Troins (10), At East Grinshad v Basding (11 20); St Athanu v Burnaria (12.20), Old Loughtchine v Issa (11 10); St Athanu v Basding (11 20); St Athanu v Burnaria v Old (2.00), Haading v Old Loughtchine (2.50), Haading v Old Loughtchine (2.50); Burnaria v Reading (5.20); See v St Athanu (6.10), WORLD CITES MODOR Toulinquality of Robins Hall, Geogonic Medial v Venera (12.40), Battangham v Coperhagen (9.55); Cariberta v Resigner (2.50), Johannesburg v Gitspow (11 45), Madrid v Venera (12.40), Battangham v Coperhagen (4.20); Venera v Bermingham (1.35); Cariberta v Gitspow (15 10), Johannesburg v Nov York (7.05), Johannesburg v How York (7.05), Johannesburg v How York (7.05), Madrid v Coperhagen (4.20); Venera v Bermingham (1.35); Cariberta v Johannesburg (6.10), NASTRO AZZIARRO LEASURE Premier Languer Old Whitghtams v Spencer Harmonian Village (1.51) (1.51) (1.51) (1.51) NASTRO AZZIFRO LEAGUE Prentier Languer Old Whitpiglians v Spencer Hempohime/Surrey: Old Mid-Notingdians v Bearingstoke. Kem/Sussex: Beckhezih v Bognin, Meddeton v Worthing. Norther NORTH LEAGUE. Pleat division: Harrogetia v Pormby; Neston v Ben Flivedding: Norther v Tempering; Rempering v Sheffield Bankers. Sautzech v Chesier: Swelling v Sheffield Bankers. Sautzech v Chesier: Swelling v Somodiatis. Neston Call National V Sheffield Bankers. 11.30). Oxford University v Durham University. University. GLUB MATCHESt. Bein v Year-WOMEN'S CLUB MATCHESt. Bein v Year-Bournempurh v Winchester (17.30); East Gloucs v Recland (10.30), Hampsteed v Rover Couter, Hendon v Bichop's Storfford; Hempton v Colvest, Lalcoster v Abridge (2.0), Newport v Recland, Reading v Southerprior (10.45); West Williamy v Kel-tering (12.0)

International match Wiles V United States (at Carolff Arms Park, 3 0)

Courses Clube Championship Bristoi v Wanps (3 0) SECOND DIVISION: Postponed: Black-heath v Newcastle, Notungham v Moseley: Retwood v Bedford, Rugby v Botherham; Wellaheld v Coventry, Wirentoo v London Sociash.

Third division Liverpool St Helens, v Leeds
London Welch v Hevani (2.16)
Morley v Walsall (3.0)
(Sam blich inspection)
Olley v Hernogate (2.15)
POSTPONED: Reading v Exiter; Ro.
Park v Wharfedale Fourth division north

Herstord v Licitiett
Stoutbridge v Sandal
Winnington Perk v Preston G
POSTPONED: Aspatria v Birmingham/Solitud: Nuneason v Worcaster: Shelled v Kendal; Stoke-on-Trent v Manchestor Fourth division south Camberlay v Berry Hili . .... Plymouth v Newbury ... ...

POSTPONED: Askeans v High Wycombet Charlton Park v Weston-super-Marc; Chettenham v Henley, North Walsham v Metropolitan Police, Tabeld v Berking SOUTH WEST: First division: Britisan Melson. Glouceste: Old Boys v Launceston; Meldonhead v Camborne: St Ives v Bridgwater; Stroud v Bernstable; Torquey v Bridgivater, Stroud v Bernstaper; Lorquey v Satisony.

LONDON: First division: Norwich v Guddford and Godelman; Russip v Trun-rock; Southend v Esner, Sraines v Ott Mat-Whitejittsmite: Sudbury v Old Coffeans; Sulton and Epsom v Beangstoker Wimble-tion v Herlow.

AEDLANDS: First division: Hinckley v Farms Hill Insertations v Burlon; Laudroon Camp Hill, Learnington v Burton: Laughton Buzzard v Broad Street; Mansfeld v Beignew; Sourthorpe v Barkers Butts: Stockwood Park v Whitchurch, Stafford v Wolvenhampton: Syston v Westleigh

NORTH: Pirst civision: Hull lorusns v Bractord and Bargley, New Brighton v Broughton Park: Sedgley Park v West Park Bramscope: Stocklor v Macclesfield: Tynaciale v Widnes; Wigton v Bridlington Switten Cup Fifth round Blackwood v Hirwaun ......

Massing v Abertynon
THIRD DIVISION: Llanheren v Kenfig Hil;
Mentiny v Persith, Nerberth v Buith Wells;
Pyle v Tesdiger; Terby Unad v Tondu
Psetponed: Mountain Ash v Rumney, Tennenta Premiership Pins division

Biograph division Dundee HSFP v Gala (2.0) Edinburgh Acads v Glasgow HK (2.0) ... Glasgow Acads v West of Scotland (2.0) Kalso v Buggar (2.0)

Third division Glasgow S v Preston Lodge (2.0) ..... Kilmarmock v Peebles (2.0) ...... Musselburgh v Kirkcaldy (2.0) ..... Sellurk v Slawari's Mehille FP (2.0) ..... Fourth division

Glernrothes v Hitheed/Jordenhill (2 0) Gordonians v Langholm (2 0) Grangemouth v Corstorphine (2 0) Haddington v Ayr (2 0) Insurance Corporation League First director Second division

North Walisham.

BOXING: World Bosing Organisation beavyweight championsing: Harry Alonwande (London, holder) v Scott Welch (Brightort), Infernational Boding Federation webstweight championship; Feta Trifudad (P Rico, holder) v Kewn Lueshing Beacherham) (in Neshvallo, Tannessee) World Boding Council super-bantaneweight championship; Deniel Zaragoza (Mac, holder) v Wayne McCallough Reliatif (in Boston, Massachusetts) British featherweight championship; Colin McMillen (Barlang, holder) v Paul Ingle (Scarborough) (at York Hall, Bethnal Green)

DARTS: Embasev world champonship tal DARTS: Embasey world championship (at Frantey Green). Bective Rangers v Monistown
DLSP v Malone
Derry v Greystorne
Highlield v NIFC
Sunday's Well v Dolphin
UCC v Skernes TABLE TENNIS: English Open (a) CLUB MATCH: Cloniari v Moseley

VOLLEYBALL: National Langue: Men. First division: Leeds v Menchester United (2 30) Cup: Shetfeld v Stoke (6 0)

SNOW REPORTS

Weather (5pm) Last °C snow Conditions Runs to Paste Off/p recort AUSTRIA 40 140 good varied good fine -5 4/1 (Greet skiling: some kryfnand spots at untergurgi) 45 180 good varied foy sun 0 4/1 (Plenty of good skiring, great weather and no crowds) Obergurgi St Anton FRANCE 60 160 good varied good cloud -1 9/1 (Good sking but poor visibility: some new snow) 65 135 good vaned good snow -1 10/1 (Fresh layer of powder on good base: poor visibility) Megève Méribel 130 275 good varied good fine 2 9/1
(Fantastic conditions, partiest sking)
105 200 good varied good cloud 4 9/1
(Overall, conditions very good: powder still available)
180 240 good varied good cloud 4 9/1
(New snow Inshing pistes: great sking) Evalier Tignes Val Thorens 150 440 good crusty good (All pistes in excellent condition) 100 200 good heavy good (Good skiing, best at atritude) Centria ine -3 8/1 LMgno sun -5 7/1

SWITZERLAND 70 170 good powder good log -2 10/1 (Fresh powder and great skiing: mbzd visibility) 50 200 good powder good log -1 10/1 (Excellent skiing in sunshina above 2,000m) Mürren 20 110 good varied good (Fresh snow all levels, good skiing)

Source: Ski Clirk of Great Britain.

0171 321 0666 NORWEGIAN TOURIST BOARD - SKI HOTLINE -

EXCELLENT CONDITIONS NORWAY

Excellent skiing at major resorts including -**Geilo, Hemsedal**, Lillehammer, Gudbrandsdalen & Voss

60

### THE TIMES GUIDE TO THE PREMIERSHIP THIS WEEKEND

ARSENAL

Arsenal welcome back David Seaman, their goalkeeper, and may need him. In this, the second of their three-match series with Sunderland, they will be without their main striker, Ian Wright. Wright and Hartson will also be suspended from the forthcoming FA Cup third-round replay. Bergkamp has now been laid low by a virus. So David Platt may return to his old role as striker: but has he still got the pace? There should be a chance up front for the promising Shaw.

#### DERBY COUNTY

Marino Ramberg, the young Swedish forward, begins a two-F month loan at the Baseball Ground next week on the recommendation of no less a source than Lennart Johansson, president of Uefa, If all goes well, Derby can sign Ramberg from Degerfors for around £700,000. "It is a perfect arrangement because we can see him play without having to offer a long contract first," Jim Smith, the manager,

said. Igor Stimac is out for five weeks after a

hernia operation.

#### ASTON VILLA Keeganless Newcastle visit Vil-

Player of the Month award.

wave of grief. Boo hoo; sob. sob. Will they blow Villa away, and later dedicate victory to their dear yet departed general, or will they emerge a confused, bedraggled outfit and submit meekly? Villa will ignore the emotional baggage and concentrate their minds, especially as there is fierce competition to win the club's most prestigious honour — the Big Steak Pub/Wacky Warehouse

la Park this afternoon on a tidal

#### **EVERTON**

Everton return Hillsborough, where a hattrick at the end of last season made Andrei Kanchelskis the club's top scorer. "I'm ahead of schedule this season. I've already got six and I only had five at this stage last year." Kanchelskis said. He has just been appointed Everton's penalty-taker, which should help. Unsworth and Phelan are available again, but Ebbrell and Parkinson are still absent. leaving Rideout and Stuart likely to continue in midfield.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

least a month with a groin injury. Better

news though, is that Jon Newsome and

Wayne Collins both came through reserve

team outings to declare themselves finally

lit after absences stretching back months.

Pleat also has a new face. Moses Garcia, the

Spanish second-division striker from

SUNDERLAND

"My kind of team - full of strength. organisation and ability." His

new signing, the £250,000 Swede, Jan

Eriksson, is a likely substitute, despite half

of Reid's first-team squad being sidelined

Peter Reid, the manager, has

declared his opponents today at

Roker Park. Arsenal, to be:

Legunes, arrived this week, a bargain at £100,000.

David Pleat, the manager, has

had some good news and some bad. The bad is that Benito

Carbone will be sidelined for at

#### BLACKBURN ROVERS

It is unfortunate after a long unbeaten stretch, but Blackburn must change a winning team that has taken them out of the bottom three of the Premiership and

into the fourth round of the FA Cup. Billy McKinlay, so important to the Blackburn revival since the departure of Ray Harford. the former manager, is suspended and Rovers will miss his combative approach in midfield. Garry Flitcroft will deputise after recovering from a five-week injury

#### LEEDS UNITED

Rob Molenaar, the latest recruit of George Graham, the manager, may be needed today, He could be pressed into service for an earlier-than-expected debut, with Palmer and Halle suspended, Radebe on international duty, and Pemberton and Jobson long-term injuries. The attack, though, is still looking thin, with only one goal in the last six games. Leicester's visit today begins an important month for Leeds, with games against Derby and West

HOW THEY STAND

20

35 35 28

+16 +10

-3 -15 -17

#### CHELSEA Scott Minto is in doubt, which

could mean another chance at left wing back for Andy Myers. Gianluca Vialli, snubbed this week by Cesare Maldini, the new Italy manager, seems destined for the bench again, the forward combination of Mark Hughes and Gianfranco Zola being so productive. With Roberto di Matteo so emphatically back in form in midfield. Chelsea could control this game, not least because Eddie Newton has strengthened

#### LEICESTER CITY

that midfield since his return.

Martin O'Neill, the manager. took the squad to Bournemouth this week to enable his players

to train outdoors on grass for the first time in 1997. Three successive fixtures have fallen victim to the weather, but that has not enabled either Steve Walsh or Mike Whitlow to recover from injuries in time to play at Leeds this afternoon. Neil Lennon, who has a broken toe, was braced for a painkilling injection, only to discover that he begins a two-match suspension. suspension.

#### COVENTRY CITY

Heady days at Highfield Road, with 13 points from a possible 15 having elevated Coventry into an intoxicating twelfth place in the Premiership. However, the 2-2 draw against Sunderland on New Year's Day proved costly for Bryan Richardson, the club chairman. In a gush of pre-season optimism, he had staked £10 at odds of 100-1 that his brave lads would reach 25 points come 1997. Failure to beat Sunderland left them on 23 ... and Richardson rueing the £1,000 pay-out that got away.

#### LIVERPOOL

Pity poor Rob Jones. After nine months out with injury, he finally made his return to firstteam action in midweek. but now he is out again - for one game only. because of a groin problem. "It is wise to give him a rest, but Rob will be back next week," Roy Evans, the manager, explained. Jones's injury means that Jason McAteer will return to right wing back and John Barnes will return to the midfield after missing the embarrassment at Middles-

brough in midweek.

#### MANCHESTER UNITED

Y Undersoil heating is all very well, but even United have not got it at their training ground: so yesterday they trained at Old Trafford, their first outdoor session of the week. Beckham and Butt are among the question marks, but the main problem tomorrow is likely to be at left back, with Irwin not expected to be fit and Philip Neville out: that might lead to another flirtation with three at the back if Pallister is fit. David May will have his groin operation next Saturday, so will play.

#### MIDDLESBROUGH

Bryan Robson's men may be in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals but avoiding relegation re-mains the issue and the home fixture today against Southampton is rightly perceived as a six-pointer. Middlesbrough have won just once in their last 15 league games. Meanwhile, Craig Hignett has forced his way back into the first team and is endorsing the claim of Gordon McQueen, the reserve coach, that he is the club's most technically-proficient player.

Ham to follow.

1 Liverpool .. ...

Chelsea .:::

1 Sunderland.

16 West Ham

18 Middlesbrough 19 Noltm Forest .

8 Everton ..... 9 Sheffleld Wed ...

Coventry ..... 13 Derby ...... 14 Leicester .....

Manchester Utd......

#### **NEWCASTLE UNITED**

PB

Naturally enough, things are a little confused at St James' Park. The players are leaving nothing to chance and there

has been more than a little respect shown to Peter Beardsley this week, given the rumours that he could become part of the new management team at Newcastle. All the drama surrounding Keegan's departure has overshadowed one significant piece of injury news. Faustino Asprilla has recovered from a hamstring problem which has sidelined him for six weeks. DM

ast five

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DLWDW

lge games

#### NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Stuart Pearce, the caretaker manager, is facing a dilemma over Nigel Clough, on loan from Manchester City. While he wants to sign the forward permanently, he has no cash to offer and is reluctant to allow any of his players to leave in exchange. "As far as I know i am going back on January 19 when the loan expires," Clough said. At least he will play against Chelsea this afternoon, while Chris Bart-Williams and Paul McGregor are available

# SOUTHAMPTON

Few goalkeepers would describe playing behind South-ampton's accident-prone defence as "a dream come true". but Maik Taylor, a lifelong supporter, is an exception. Signed from Barnet on New Year's Eve, he makes his debut at Middlesbrough, where Southampton seek their first away win. That will require Taylor keeping a clean sheet, assuming Southampton score their customary single away goal. Middles-brough will want revenge for a 4-0 Dell defeat back in balmy September. NS

after injury.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR Spoilt for choice is not a phrase that Gerry Francis, the manager, has been too familiar with this season yet, after the signing of Ramon Vega, the Switzerland centre back, he now has a surfeit of talent in

central defence. Perm any three from Vega, Campbell, Calderwood and Scales seems the most simplistic solution but what happens when the long-serving Gary Mabbutt's broken leg has finally mended? Sadly, a phrase involving the words on, your and bike spring to mind.



#### through injury or suspension. Accordingly, Bridges and Mullin will lead the home attack but Reid said: "There is nothing better than seeing young players come through the ranks."

WEST HAM UNITED Having declared that he wants battlers rather than bottlers for n ngnt carry knapp, the manager, will be

tempted to give Steve Jones, the former soap factory worker, his first league start since August at Anfield. There can be little doubt that Hugo Porfirio will keep his place alongside Jones in attack even if, according to Peter Storrie, the managing director, "having looked at all the snow, he may be having second thoughts" about making his loan move permanent.

recent enforced break (two league games and an FA Cup tie frozen off) at least gave Earle and Perry time to recover fitness for the win at Bolton, where Chelsea and Tottenham had previously fallen. Vinnie Jones hopes that the result will finally change attitudes. "People can stop saying what a fairytale it is," he said. "Fairytales are for kids, not professional footballers." Reports: Brian Glanville, Peter Beil, Russell Kempson, Richard Hobson, Louise Taylor, Nick Szczepanik, Keith Pike, David Maddock, Statistics: Julian Desborough



#### Victory in the Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final on Wednesday

tion for Wimbledon, whose

WIMBLEDON





#### **ASTON VILLA V NEWCASTLE UNITED**

TICKETS: Soid out

10-YEAR RECORD 202 to 341 to the total C-2 G-2 Total

HOW THEY LINE UP ASTON VILLA (rem) M. Sesmen, F. Neisen, A. Vinger, U. Shiogu. S. Staunton, G. Southgate, D. Tier, R. Sermeda, A. Townsend, I. Tavier, T. Staunton, G. Curon, D. Yorke, S. Mittasina, J. Joachem, E. Hendhel, G. Famelli, M. Oaves.

NEWCASTLE UNITED stroms in Stroms, W. Sorial II. Beresterd C. Batt. ID Feadon in Bleads of A. Shodrer ID Fertinand in Ealon D. Banda, S. Hippop N. Bandapa, S. Natson II. Craft, F. Albert, P. Kitson

#### MIDDLESBROUGH v **7** SOUTHAMPTON TICKETS: Settle 5.5 10-YEAR RECORD .... - 3-3 - - - - 2-1, --, --, -

HOW THEY LINE UP AMDDLESBROUGH (from) G Warsh N Cax D White S Vickers Emerson R Musico Jumino F Rhane - C Fleming C Blackmore C Honett, M Beck, P Stamp, B Roberts J A Fjortalt, A Moore,

SOUTHAMPTON (from M. Tautor P. Benali C. Lundervarn, I. Maddison, U. van Gobbel A. Nedson, B. Berkovic, R. Stater, M. te. Tissier, E. Ostenajad, D. Brasant, G. Watson, U. Magiton,

#### LEADING SCORERS 16: | Wright (Arsenal)

11: R Fowler (Liverpool), D Yorke (Aston Villa) 10: L Ferdinand (Newcastle United) 9: E Ekoku (Wimbledon), M Le Tissier (Southampton). F Revanelli (Middlesbrough), O G Solskjaer (Manchester United) 8: D Dublin (Coventry City), G Vialti (Chelsea)

## CHAMPIONSHIP BETTING

7-4: Manchester United, 5-2: Liverpool, 5-1: Arsenal, 11-2: Newcastle United ,10-1: Aston Villa, 12-1: Cheisea,



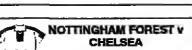
#### BLACKBURN ROVERS v **COVENTRY CITY**

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: --, --, --, --, --, 2-5, 2-1, 4-0, 5-1

HOW THEY LINE UP BLACKBURN ROVERS (from): T Flowers, J Kenna, C Hendry, H Berg G te Saux, T Sherwood, L Schmen, J Wilcox, C Sutton, K Gallacher, H Marker, G Fistoroff, S Given, G Donis, P Warthurst, N Gudmundsson,

COVENTRY CITY (from: S. Ogradure, B. Sarrows, L. Daish, P. Wittams, R. Shaw, P. Teffer, K. Richardson, G. McAllister, J. Salako, D. Dublin, D. Huckerby, E. Jean, W. Boland, M. Hatt, R. Genaux, A. Ductos, J. Filan



TICKETS: Soata available 10-YEAR RECORD, 0-1, 3-2, --, 1-1, 7-0, 1-1, 3-0, --, 0-1, 0-0

HOW THEY LINE UP NOTTINGHAM FOREST (from), M. Crossley, D. Lytile. S. Pearce. C. Cooper. S. Chettle. D. Philips, A.I. Haoland, N. Clough, I. Woan, D. Saunders, K. Campbell, B. Roy, C. Bart-Williams, C. Allen, N. Jerkan, C. Armstrong. J. Walker. V. Warner, T. Wright.

CHELSEA ritom; F. Gradas, M. Duberry, F. Leboeuf, E. Johnsen, D. Petrescu, E. Newton, R. di Mattec, D. Wise, A. Myers, G. Zola, M. Hughes, G. Valli, C. Burley, K. Hijchcock, F. Sinclair, M. Nicholls, N. Charles, G. Matte



10-YEAR RECORD: --, 2-1, 4-0, 1-1, 5-1, --, --, --, --, --, --,

HOW THEY LINE UP WIMBLEDON (probable): N Sullivan, K Cunningham, A Kimble, D Blackwell, C Perry, N Ardicy V Jones, R Earle, O Leonhardsen.

DERBY COUNTY (from): R. Houli, M. Taylor, J. Laursen, D. Yates, G. Rowell, C. Porasii, D. Powell, R. van der Laan, C. Dailly, A. Asanovic, D. Sturridge, M. Gabbiadini, R. Willerro, P. Simpson, L. Carsley, S. Rlynn, A. Ward, M. Carben, D. Wassall, J. Kavanagh, P. McGrath.



#### LEEDS UNITED V LEICESTER CITY

TICKETS: Seats available 10-YEAR RECORD: --, 1-0, 1-1, 2-1, --, --, --, --, 2-1, --

HOW THEY LINE UP

LEEDS UNITED (from): N Martyn. G. Kelly, D. Weitherall, P. Beesley, R. Molenaar, A. Dorigo, R. Wallace, M. Jackson, M. Ford, L. Bowyer, I Harte, I Rush, B. Deana, A. Gray, A. Couzens, M. Beeney



#### SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY *VEVERTON*

TICKETS: Seats available 10-YEAR RECORD: 2-2, 1-0, 1-1, 1-1, --, 2-1, 3-1, 5-1, 0-0, 2-5.

HOW THEY LINE UP SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (from). K Pressman, P Atherton, I Nolan, D Walker, D Statanovic, G Hyde, M Pembridge, G Whittingham, R Blinker, A Booth, R Humphreys, S Nicol, S Oakes, O Doraldson, D Hirst, M Clarke, O Trustfull, W Co

EVERTON (from) N Southalf, E Barrett, T Phelan, D Watson, D Unsworth, A Kanchelskis, G Speed, A Grant, N Barmby, D Ferguson, M Branch, R Dunno, M Hotoger, A Limpar, P Gerrard

TOMORROW TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR V .

MANCHESTER UNITED TICKETS: Sold out

10-YEAR RECORD: 4-0, 1-1, 2-2, 2-1, 1-2, 1-2, 1-1, 0-1, 0-1, 4-1 HOW THEY LINE UP

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (from): I Welker, S Campbell, C Calderwood, C Wilson. D Howells, R Fox, A Sinton, R Rosenthal, S Carr., S Neithercott, J Edinburgh, E Baardson, A Nielsen, R Allen, N Fenn,

MANCHESTER UNITED (from): P Schmeichel, G Neville, D May, R Johnsen, D Beckmann, N Bult, R Keene, R Glogs, A'Cole, E Cantona, O G Solskjaer, P Scholes, B McClair, K Poborsky, R van der Gouw,



#### LIVERPOOL v West ham united

TICKETS: Sold out

10-YEAR RECORD: 1-0, 0-0, 5-1, ---, --, 1-0, ---, 2-0, 0-0, 2-0 HOW THEY LINE UP

LIVERPOOL (from) D James, J McAteer, ST Bjornebye, P Babb, M Wright, D Matteo, J Barnes, M Thomas, S McManaman, P Berger, M Kennedy, R Fowler, S Coftymore, A Warner, M Cerragher, N Ruddock, S Harkness. WEST HAM UNITED (Irom): L Miklosko, T Breacker, M Rigner, S Biblo, S Potts, J Dicks: D Williamson, I Bishop, J Moncur, K Rowland, F Lampard, M Bowen, M Hughes, S Jones, F Raducioiu, H Portirio, M Newell, L Sealey, S Laziridis.



#### SUNDERLAND v ARSENAL.

TICKETS: Seein availab

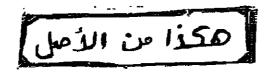
HOW THEY LINE UP SUNDERLAND (from) L. Parez, G. Hall, D. Kubrcki, R. Ord, A. Melville, D. Kelly, D. Willams, P. Bracewell, M. Gray, M. Bridges, J. Mullin, C. Russell, S. Aliston, J. Eniksson, P. Hackingbottom, D. Preeca ARSENAL (from): D Seaman, L Dixon, A Linighan, A Adams, P Vieira, M Keown, S Bould, N Winterburn, R Parlour, D Platt, P Merson, D Bergkamp, M Rose, R Garde, J Hartson, J Lukic, P Shaw.

WHEN TO WATCH ON TELEVISION \*\*\*

10,40pm BBC 1 Match of the Day (highlights) 11am Sky Sports Goals on Sunday

3pm Sky Sports Ford Escort Super Sunday Tottermain Hotspor v Manchester United (live)

The official Internet site of the FA Carling Premierahio is at http://www.fa-carling.com/



THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY 11 1997

# Taken over by City gents playing a dangerous game

n extraordinary week, indeed an almost surre-Kevin Keegan's departure, his ability to drop out of sight. does nothing to deliste the emotions engendered around ish the fact that his emotive drive and Sir John Hall's commercial acumen had propelled the fallen dub higher than most people had imagined was possible.

It was sport faelled by money and it was the second period of Kevin Keegan's Pied Piper effect, the first as a player . ... and he is so much younger than the past two months made him appear that it is by no means fantasy to rule out a third coming on

Meanwhile, the fusion of money, of television, of what once was a game, is being taken over, we are told, by the City gentlemen who, with the £150 million Newcastle United flotation in mind, apparently feel they have the power, the knowledge and the right to determine who should manige the footballing affairs of

Heaven help us. Heaven help the Rootball League that, curiously enough, was founded by William McGregor at Aston Villa, where Newcastle's next era, temporarily under Ter-

McDermott and Arthur Cox, begins at three o'clock this afternoon. manner

has come through 109 years has always been to have its business run — many would say misrun — by people whose business brains may not have been of the very highest cali-bre, but who at least had an appreciation of the peculiar aspects of football finance and who had an allegiance to the colours, an affection for the tribalism, of England's foot-

Sir John Hall, disether he stays as chairman or defects into some kind of honorary presidency, has been a man of both worlds, an entrepreneur of outstanding achievement much as coal dust beneath his ROB HUGHES



Weekend View

should beware: Manchester United shares are too expensive, all the rest may prove

in London, Alan Sugar, a man who has found the addic-tive aspect of football irresistible, even through periods of hostility, faces a weekend in which his enforced loosening of the purse-strings, his spend-ing of £10.5 million in recent weeks, is put to immediate test. Last week his club, Tottenham Hotspor, went out of the FA Cup; revenue lost. Tomorrow, facing Manchester United for a second time.

What do they know of football; what, deep down, do they care?

maintain faith in their ability to qualify for the Uefa Cup next season; to regain income. ness of football speculation; it is not like selling computer terminals; it rests on the fallibility, the inspiration of individuals in a team game. Yet, in Newcastle and in-

deed at the City Ground, in Nottingham, we are told that managers, the men who live by results, can be chosen on the whim of people providing the "new money" in the sport. What do they really know of football and its fortunes? of outstanding achievement What, deep down, do they and a Geordie, brought up care? What is the attraction, with football in his mind as other than the perception that football's new, televisionfingernails: Elsewhere, those inflated importance, is a li-

marriage between football and high finance. One looks abroad, to Milan, where Silvio Berlusconi, prime minister for such a short time, is panicking now that he has hired and discarded two managers in a matter of months, and still the team cannot convert defeat

instant victory, still the

price of his acquisition of the club and his pride falls. One looks to France, to the apid rise and collapse of Marseilles. Its president, Bernard Tapie, brought business practices, sharp practices, to football. He is in court next week, another chapter in the disgracing of the club that his money lifted to European Cup fame and which, in that hour of glory, was found to have corruptly "bought" matches.

Everything that existed be-fore me is still going on,"Tapic said yesterday. "I intend, in the court, to name all the personalities in French football because I invented

He alleges that, Samson-like, he will pull down the pillars, he will testify in pique to corruption right through the club structure, showing that the malpractices that he brought from his business world to the so-called sporting eague are rife. It does

not end there. . Money and igno-rance have fuelled sport for decades and the men responsible have been João Havelange and Juan Antonio Samaranch,

the Latins who rule international football and the Olympic movement; not because they corrupted the ideals, but because they recognised and welcomed the triangle of sportsponsorship-television their Latin wiles opened up major sport to major business.

And in Newcastle, it has an almost frightening extra ele-ment. Frank Clark, the Geordie who left Nottingham Forest for Manchester City, identifies it as "quasi-religious fervour". Fittingly, this lunch-time, Cardinal Basil Hume, who usually declines requests to discuss his lifelong passion pontificate on the subject on Radio 5 Live. Might he offer a prayer for football as we have

## Hard man now allying brain to brawn

STUART PEARCE THE FACE OF FOOTBALL

By Andrew Longmore

gone to Stuart Pearce's head. As a manager, he has revealed a seam of intellisence and humour not often evident in his work on the field. From the moment he told viewers to Match of the Day that his first Nottingham Forest side, jotted down on the back of an envelope in his kitchen late at night, looked great until he counted a dozen names, Pearce has shown a nice line in self-deprecation and brought a refreshingly innocent tone to the all too serious business of football

might need all 12 of Pearce's original team at the City Ground today to combat a Chelsea side that is just beginning to flow. The miracles dried up after the unlikely defeat of Arsenal in Pearce's first match as playermanager and, though results have improved since the departure of Frank Clark to Manchester City, not even Psycho's uncomplicated style of man-management can hide the deliciencies of a team short of firepower or invigorate a club reduced to impotence by internal power

Pearce has been caught up in the middle of it all. This week, he lost his chaperone, Alan Hill, the assistant manager, who followed Clark to Maine Road. But while his instinct is to roll up his sleeves and get on with the job, it would be naive of any incoming consortium either to take Pearce's presence for granted or ignore his influence. Pearce's popularity on the streets of Nottingham is unquestioned. At times over the past five years, it has seemed was Forest and will strengthen his hand and his confidence - immea-



A City Ground favourite, Pearce has also earned admiration throughout football

the "caretaker" from his managerial title.

Pearce said his decision would be based on the effect on his football and his person al life. He would not need colour pictures of a haggard Kevin Keegan to remind him of the toil modern football management exacts, be it on the sleepy Trent or the pass-Brian Clough disintegrate before his eyes. For a start, his surably when he decides later wife, Liz, will have to hire

horses. For another thing, the phone never stops ringing 'Just when you think that's it for the day," Pearce said

recently, "it goes again and someone wants to buy your reserve team goalkeeper. Less surprising is the news that his form remains unbroken. Like a good old car, there is not much that can go wrong with Pearce's football, even if the surging runs and his thumping left-footed strikes that characterised his early days are a little less frequent

the typical English footballer and the image would be readily identifiable. Pearce is easy to caricature and easy to despise, too, the ultimate product of a system that reveres physique over technique, stamina over skill.

Ask any foreign player to draw an identikit picture of

A full-page colour photograph in a recent issue of the aisles. Pearce is trying to control the ball, with his left 'His strengths have become a proud symbol of the English game

ing it, just, but the seemingly simple act is demanding such overwhelming physical exertion, such monumental con-centration, backside out, arms splayed for exaggerated balance, it is reminiscent of a circus artist performing a breathtaking new trick. "And now, ladies and gentleman. for the first time ever, Psycho will attempt to trap the ball ... As far as you can tell. there is no one within ten

yards of him. At times, often when etched in relief against classy oppo-nents on an international has been an embarrassment Yet, his robust skills have been treasured by Bobby Robson and Terry Venables, and valued enough for Glenn Hoddle to persuade him out of international retirement

Pearce has not tried to embellish his game. Like his taste in music, which has rarely strayed far from The resolutely unfancy, as Gianfranco Zola will doubtless find out this afternoon.

ola, whose diminutive frame Pearce will try to his time and he is quite able to handle himself, But Pearce is in a different class. He is not sly or dirty. He is not, on the whole, a shirt tugger or healclipper. He just knows that true happiness can only be found when ball and man become one and both have been dispatched into Row B. Pearce, for all the teeth-

baring and fist-clenching immortalised at Wembley in Euro 96, has never encouraged the Psycho worship any more than he swallows sentimental rubbish about lovalty Pearce has been at Forest for ten years, loves the club and the people. "But," he once "there's no way I'd accept £100 a week just

The difference now is that. since scoring his soul-cleansing penalty against Spain, his strengths have become common currency, not a source of shame but a proud symbol of admires Pearce, for just what he is. Nothing more, nothing

because I-like it here."

## Forest fear reaction from supporters at takeover vote

selves for a difficult afternoon at the City Ground as Nottingham Forest shareholders, who blocked a takeover bid for the club five days ago, bear the brunt of ill-feeling from supporters (Richard Hobson writes). Forest, second from bottom of the FA Carling Premiership, entertain Chelsea and Mel Hart, chairman of the supporters' club,

appealed for calm.
It has crossed our minds that there might be trouble, but we cannot afford to become another Brighton and Hove Albion," he said. Brighton were deducted two points earlier in the season after crowd misbehaviour at the Goldstone Ground.

Last Saturday, as Forest knocked Ipswich Town out of the FA Cup, shareholders, who have their own enclosure, came in for barracking. as expectations grew that they would reject a £13 million offer of immediate cash from the consortium headed by Sandy Anderson. Two days later, they followed the predicted course as they failed to give Anderson the required 75 per cent approval.

Some supporters feel that a minority of shareholders (79 of the 203 voted against Anderson) are out for personal gain, awaiting a bid from a second consortium that includes Nigel Wray, the part owner of Saracens RFC, and Irving Scholar, the former Tottenham

Hotspur chairman, which could not them more than £13,000 each. Yesterday, the supporters' club, in protest, staged a mock meeting at which the Anderson bid was in reality, the future remains

uncertain amid rumours that an American consortium, led by Albert Scardino, a spokesman for Bill Clinton in the 1992 primary elec-tions, will submit a bid next week, and that Anderson will draw up a

Andy Lowe, editor of the Tricky Tree fauzine, said: "We are frustrated because the shareholders had the chance to sort the matter out once and for all and they turned it down. Meanwhile, we are heading

towards relegation." Irving Korn, the Forest chairman, urged supporters to be "both patient and

understanding". The most significant consequence of the week's activity is that Stuart Pearce, the caretaker manager, is still unable to add to his squad. "Ruud Gullit ithe Chelsea manager) can put himself in the team when he likes, otherwise he can spend millions of pounds. 1 would love to be in that position." Pearce said.

Tomas Brolin, the Sweden international, was yesterday finally given permission by Leeds United to train with his former club,

Parma, for the next two weeks. Brolin has not played for Leeds under George Graham, the new manager, and is keen to leave the English club he joined for £4.5

"He is training with Parma until January 23," Bill Potherby, the Leeds chairman, said. "We'll know more about any possible perma-nent deal after that."

### **Footballer** accused of cocaine use

ADAM TANNER, the Ipswich Town utility player, has been charged with misconduct by the Pootball Association after testing positive for cocaine (Russell Kempson writes). Tanner, 23, could face a lengthy suspension because the drug is regarded as an aid to performance.

Last night the player expressed his "immense regret" adding: "I would like to apologise whole-heartedly to both the supporters and staff of Ipswich Town and also my family.

Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, said: "It is only when the player is unwilling to help himself that punitive action is considered and taken against first-time offenders. Although there is a desire to help players, there is a grading of penalties and these crease when the drug in question is performance-enhancing."

Jay Notley, of Chariton Athletic,

is the only other player known to have tested positive this season from more than 300 samples.

# Ferguson keeps watchful eye on Wimbledon's progress

tenham Hotspur tomorrow with Alex Ferguson, their manager, proclaiming that the title race is at last properly under way (Peter Ball writes). At Maine Road, Manchester City are virtually starting their season all over again as they go into their first game of the new year, this time under Frank Clark.

The race is on," Ferguson said. We're not at the ticklish stage yet, where everything is magnified, but it is an interesting league. You can't take anything for granted — you have to perform well in all games to get the consistency to keep in

At the moment, there are half a dozen teams jostling in the leading pack. Ferguson believes that will come down to three or four, possibly including Wimbledon, who impressed him greatly with their away win against Bolton Wanderers in the Coca-Cola Cup on Wednesday. on Wednesday. They ve got two games in hand,

and if they win those they go top," Ferguson said, "I think the key for

injuries. They are well-coached, well organised, and they are light years away from the image they had a few years ago. They are still very competititve, but they don't have that belligerent attitude to-

wards officialdom and opponents they used to have." Most sides will still fear United, providing they stay in touch until the "ticklish" stage arrives. "The experience we've had over the last three years must help us," Ferguson said.

Tottenham, though, may provide a tough test tornorrow, with United troubled by injuries, particularly in defence. If Pallister is fit, and Irwin is not, Ferguson will consider playing three at the back, not a formation that United have adopted with much success.

While United contemplate challenging for their third title in four years - and their third double in four years — City are facing a battle against relegation as they meet Crystal Palace today. It will be Clark's first match in charge, two

new beginning.
"Yes, except we've only got 22 games left," Clark said. "I'd be

quite happy if we could start again, scrapping the previous 24 games. Time is a concern. There is not a lot left and we're not in a good Clark is used to inheriting clubs

in a poor position, although he feels that turning City round is likely to be a harder task than he faced on arrival at Nottingham

Ironically, in the week that Kevin Keegan left Newcastle United, City begin under Clark in much the same position as Newcastle were when keegan arrived, and with much the same weight of expectation.

Blackburn Rovers will reject a transfer request from their goal-keeper, Shay Given. "He'll go in the summer," Tony Parkes, the acting manager, said, "but he's got to stay until then. We have got to have two top-class goalkeepers."

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## **RUGBY UNION 48**

Richmond add South African to growing foreign legion

Cork returns to action as rain restricts England



SATURDAY JANUARY 11 1997

Defeat of Ivanisevic carries Briton to second successive final and into leading 20

# Henman strides on towards the top

BY DAVID MILLER

TIM HENMAN'S march to 2 place in the world's top 20 came at the expense of Goran Ivanisevic, the world No 3, who critically missed an open backhand at the net when in a winning position in their semifinal of the Sydney International yesterday.

Yet if it was an error that allowed Henman to advance to his second ATP final in consecutive weeks, it must be stressed that his victory bristled with a steadily mounting self-assurance.

The temperamental Croatian is the highest-ranked player to be defeated by the upwardly mobile Henman. who was scheduled to meet the unseeded Carlos Moya, of Spain, in the final in the early hours of this morning. He beat Ivanisevic 4-6, 7-6, 6-1 thanks to a blistering tie-break performance in the second set,

week after reaching his first ATP final in Qatar last weekend will become the first British player in the top 20 since Buster Mottram was ranked No 15 in 1983. His eight match wins are more than any other ATP player this vear and his victory in Sydney was marked by outstanding tactical sense against the powerful Ivanisevic. There were

times when Henman's service

was the more formidable. Here was no tyro up against the big shot. These were two players meeting on level the measure of Heriman's improvement since he began last year at a lowly world No 99. No player on the circuit can now confront him with equanimity for his game is acquiring an impressive all-round quality. Yet there is no denying the element of good

middle of the second set. Ivanisevic had taken the tached and almost casual as Ivanisevic served out for 6-4, Henman hitting loose ground shots wide on either flank.

Suddenly, though, the flow of the game switched as Henman now found a higher gear. With Ivanisevic serving at 1-0 down in the second set, Henman pulled him back to deuce from 40-15 and struck a fine return for advantage.

On the next point, his deep cross-court backhand seemed to fall just wide, but was not called: 2-0. In a fury, Ivanisevic, who has yet to justify his talent by winning a grandslam event, smashed his racket into pieces on the hard court, then kicked it away. He was duly warned.

Henman served to 3-0, but Ivanisevic, recomposed, recovered to make it 3-3 and then

44. In the next game, Henman, trailing 40-15 on his service, hit a short ball to Ivanisevic's backhand. With a choice of passing Henman on for the match, Ivanisevic put the ball in the net.

At 5-5. Henman was aga 40-15 down on his service and then advantage down. Yet, with that steadiness that has become his hallmark, he survived the crisis and forced a rie-break.

In this he raced to 5-1. winning points against service with a glorious deep forehand and a backhand cross-court pass. A dejected Ivanisevic double-faulted for 6-1 and Henman served out to level

The final set was hardly a ntest, Ivanisevic's concentration evaporating as that drowning spaniel look envel-

Henman is the first Briton to reach the Sydney final, formerly the New South Wales Open, since Fred Perry lost to Jack Crawford in 1934 The only British winner was Wilburforce Vaughan-Eaves in 1902.

"I don't know what he was up to, and I was aware he was getting frustrated," Henman said. But I couldn't waste You've got to think about what

Focus, the vogue word now adays, is one of Henman's several strengths. There will be times in 1997 when I'll lose and my ranking will drop," he said. "But, as Pete Sampras says, 'it is not where you are ranked in March and April stand in December"."

The partnership with David Felgate, his coach, who is now working with him full-time, is producing obvious dividends. though Henman remains well aware that there is much still to accomplish, not least the advice from Boris Becker during the Grand Slam Cup in the net more often.

Yesterday, though, he was trying to concentrate his efforts on winning his first

"It is easy to let your focus switch to the grand-slam event," he said, "but I am trying to keep my head screwed on, to play one match at a time. I am looking forward to playing in Mel-bourne, but for the moment I am here in Sydney.



Henman puts maximum effort into a backhand drive during his victory over Ivanisevic yesterday

## Liverpool decline offers for unsettled Redknapp

Ivanisevic comes a cropper during his semi-final defeat by Henman in Sydney

By David Maddock

he will soon become a first-

Watchful Ferguson ...... 51

There have, he said, been

offers, but Redknapp is seen

as integral to the future of the

club. "Roma made inquiries

and other clubs have made

contact but there is no way we

are at all interested." Evans

said. "We have made it clear

that he is not for sale. Jamie is

only a young player and a full

international. We will not let

players of that quality leave."

team regular again.

Rob Hughes ..

LIVERPOOL confirmed last night that they have had offers from two different clubs for Jamie Redknapp, their unsettled England international. They will not, however, entertion that has built up around tain a transfer, despite the Redknapp recently, attempted prospect of a fee in the region to put the record straight of £5 million. yesterday by suggesting that

Redknapp has started only four first-team games this season and has recently become depressed with his Anfield prospects. Regular relegation to the bench, he said, has inhibited his England prospects. Worse, an injury that has ruled him out for the past three weeks has frustrated him even further.

Before an ankle injury forced him into the treatment room, he advanced the nution of a loan period, both to recover match fitness and get away from the Liverpool supporters, who gave him an unland reception in his last full match.

Redknapp will not be allowed to leave, even though Roma. Fiorentina and Tonen-Redknapp will soon get his ham Hotspur have all made chance when he has recovered persistent inquiries. Roy Evfrom the niggling injury, probably against Aston Villa next ans, the Liverpool manager, exasperated with the specula-Saturday.

"Michael Thomas is suspended after this weekend and so Jamie will get a chance if he is fit. When he gets back in, if he gets a couple of decent games under his belt, he might never get out of the side again. He could be back for good," Evans said.

"I appreciate he wants to play football and he will get it if he is patient. He has never asked for a move and he will not be leaving because he is a quality player. He will get back into the side soon

Evans is concerned to settle a Liverpool side that has had several disappointing results recently. "We have got to be positive." he said. "We are still top of the Premiership and somebody has to take this league by the scruff of the neck soon - why not us?"

## Dalglish slips quietly back into Newcastle reckoning

BY DAVID MADDOCK

RUMOUR. speculation, confusion ... just another day in the life of Newcastle United Football Club post-Kevin Keegan. A club of its size that is searching for a manager will always invite intense interest. Yesterday, it bordered on hysteria. Claim and counter-claim

surrounded the quest for a successor to Keegan. The reality, though, was summed up in one sentence from Bobby Robson, the man on whom Newcastle's search briefly seemed to centre. "Right job, wrong time," he said, after a day in which it was reported that Newcastle returned with a second offer to tempt him back to his native North East. Sir John Hall, the New-

castle chairman, was said to have flown to Spain to seek further talks with the former England manager. Robson. though, spent most of the day in meetings with his Barcelona president, José Luis Núñez. Robson is contracted to

Barcelona for two seasons and was now Newcastle's prime target, but he, too, exp resterday he was attempting that, should Newcastle make to clarify his position. It seems an offer, it would come at the that Nunez satisfied Robson that his future lay with a club wrong time. regarded as among the big-gest in Europe. Indeed, Rob-"I'm flattered to be linked

with such a job as that at Newcastle, but I must honour son indicated that he had been given greater scope in his tole my contract [with Deportivo as coach. This, he said, meant La Corunal, and unless things that he had to decline Newchange then that means I must remain until it expires at castle's offer. "It's an honour and very the end of this season. Anyflattering that a club like Newcastle should make me an way. I have heard nothing," Toshack said. offer." Robson said. "They're a The third candidate on the

phenomenal club and assignate about football. It is Dalglish, and the silence from highly tempting and a won-derful opportunity to return to him is perhaps far more significant than the sound of the place where I come from, rejection from Spain. There but I can only be in one place are few managers in England equipped to follow the charisat one time - it's the right job at the wrong time." matic Keegan, and Dalglish is If there was a hint of regret one of them. Most important of all, he actually wants the job. He has confided to close in Robson's tone, then that was repeated by John friends that it would be an Toshack, another British manager plying his trade in Spain. ideal return to football for

weastle shortlist is Kenny him. Publicly, though, he was as tight-lipped as ever.

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# Elements of surprise leave a cloud over sports schedule

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

"CYCLONE stops play" notices went up in New Plymouth vesterday, at the height of the Antipodean summer. halting England's cricket match against a New Zealand Academy XI. Too much snow in Kleinkirchheim. Austria. forced the women's World Cup downhill skiing to be cancelled, and in Chamonix, France, final practice for the men's downhill was stopped because of poor visibility. Has the world's weather gone mad?

In England, at least, the outlook remained predictable. Football again bore the brunt of the big freeze, with IS first-class fixtures, including 12 in the Nationwide League, falling victim to the Arctic conditions. Rugby union lost Sale's match against Saracens, in the Courage Clubs Championship first division, while the horse racing meetings at Asont and Warwick

were also ruled non-starters. The Academy XI had concluded its innings on 201 in the one-day match before torrential rain washed

out the rest of proceedings. Drena, unwelcome as she was unscasonal. also forced the abandonment of the quarter-finals of the New Zealand open tennis tournament in Auckland Jan-Michael Gambill, of the United States, led Jonas Bjorkman, of Sweden, by two games to one when they had to flee for cover. It was had, too, in Bad

Kleinkirchheim. A heavy overnight snowfall had made the piste awkward and dense fog only added to the degree of difficulty facing the women downhillers. After the first

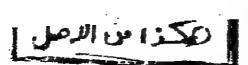
seven skiers had descended into the darkness, the race had to be abandoned. "The safety of the girls is paramount." Hans Pumm, the Austria coach, said. "It was impossible '

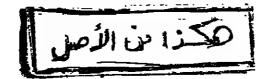
yesterday that the Welshman

The men could see little in Chamonix, either. Even though the weather was fair and the temperature well above freezing, a thick mist quickly enveloped the upper part of the course at the French Alpine resort. It did not please Alberto Tomba, of Italy, the temperamental world and Olympic champion.

statom race tomorrow, but a spokesman for him sald yesterday: "He will travel here and decide on the spot whether to start or give up." What a trooper. The international rugby union

match in Cardiff today appears to be unaffected, with the undersoil heating at the Arms Park paving the way for Wales to take on United States. Barring a hurricane, peasouper, fire, brimstone or a plague of frogs overnight, the game should







nd into leading 20



Take the plunge in fashion's new shirts shopping - 3

# Weekend

Four-page special on the joys of Spain



SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997

# Why Anne will live for ever

On Monday The Times begins the serialisation of the unexpurgated edition of The Diary of a Young Girl.



Today Julia Neuberger celebrates the lasting appeal of Anne Frank's thoroughly

his month sees the publication of a new edition of Anne Frank's diary, 50 years after it first came out. The very freshness, the depth of feeling and the lack of sentimentality of this new, much longer diary make it clear why Anne Frank should be regarded not only as a tecnage girl with a precocious talent for a poignant memoir, but as a fine and substantial writer, who never reached her peak of expression because of her tragically short life.

The new material — about 30 per cent has been added, which Anne's father had edited out makes it instantly engaging to older, more jaded palates as well as remaining as enthralling as it always was for

younger readers. I first read the diary when I was about II. It had a particular resonance for me, because my mother had been a refugee voice of experience, all the from Nazi Germany, and had stronger a voice. This teenager got her younger brother out of is by no means meany mounted; or saintly. She could have been one of us, surprisingly modern Schwab, had also been deeply and surprisingly honest as she involved in refugee rescue work was. Although my response in before the war. So I grew up surrounded by the German accents of refugees who had come to this country, including

members of my family. Anne Frank's original diary was not only fascinating and moving, it was also my history, my story. I could have been in her situation if I had been born at a different time, and many of

modern voice my relatives suffered her fate. So I might have been thought to have particular reasons to respond to the diary, except that I was not alone in reading and re-reading it in my early teen-

Many of my friends did the same, and most did not share my family's history. It was, instead, that we could recognise the authentic voice of a young teenager. We had responded to Anne's grumpiness as much as to her tragedy. We had imagined ourselves in hiding, but we had also heard her musings on friends at school before she left. We knew that she was writing out of experience.

Reading this new version, with all its additions which Otto Frank had removed for reasons of modesty and respect for the memories of the dead, makes that authenticity, that middle age is not what it was as a young girl, because I know both from reading and from conversation about so many more people's personal experi-ences of the Holocaust, Anne Frank's diary still has a magic for me. It still has a freshness, and a bite - and a power to













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ermyn Street runs through the heart of the oak-panelled world between Piccadilly and Pall Mall. Before London became cool and slavish to the Armanis and Versaces, it was the only place for a man to shop.

Snaking between Regent Street and St James', it is lined with heavy initials and big-game names: Harvie and Hudson, New and Lingwood, T.M. Lewin, Turnbull and Asser. They speak of strong men in soft shirts, horny toes in cashmere socks, the iron representatives of Empire in fine wool suitings. This is where Bertie Wooster would have come to research his one venture into journalism: "What the Well-Dressed Man is Wearing", a piece for his Aunt Dahlia's paper, Milady's Boudoir.

Little has changed since then, and least of all that uniquely British creature, the Gentleman's

Gentleman's Outfitters are the angostura bitters in the pink gin of menswear. Though they all have soft, white hands and that creepy, "I must say, Sir looks very good in stripes" attitude, they break down into essentially three different types: the camp and friendly, the camp and haughty, and the honest artisan. They can now be found in shire stores across the country, but Jermyn Street is to them as Lord's is to the cricketer.

The camp and friendly type I came across, when taken to buy my first sports jacket. My father, who had been reared on the Lincolnshire fens, thought I needed something hairy. "Ooh, something hairy, eh?" said the excited salesman, a combination of lan McCaskill and John Inman. When my father asked whether tailors

### SERIOUS SHOPPING GENTLEMAN'S OUTFITTERS

still wanted to know which side a

fainted with pleasure. The camp and haughty type appears in Alan Bennett's play An Englishman Abroad. When Coral Browne, the Australian actress. goes shopping for Guy Burgess, the spy, one shop assistant refuses to sell pyjamas for a notorious homosexual and traitor. When Browne calls him a stuck-up English prig, the assistant puffs out his chest and replies, "Madam, we are a Polish firm."

man dressed, the assistant nearly

The last sort is the beetling, diminutive artisan, obviously more at home in a workshop than front of house. Dressed only in black and white, they love the sepulchral labyrinths of shoe lasts



BY PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

which stretch out behind their shops like bank vaults. For them the shop is a confessional where no questions are asked and nothing is passed on. Whereas he does every-

thing else with an arrogant sense of tradition, the Gentleman's Outfitter still has not got the hang of sales. For him, a sale is an admittance of failure; nothing to be happy about. He puts a diminutive sign up in his window then stands behind his counter looking as though he has just snagged his longjohns.

Twice a year, in the new year and late summer, the Jermyn Street G.O. must deal with tourists intrigued by the Olde England style of his shop, and club bores. who hover shiftily around the discount shirts in their tight-fitting overcoats, their cheeks red from frost and claret.

While their richer friends head for the country for the weekends.

these men are the poor relations who are left to paw the ground outside their clubs, itching for Monday when they reopen and the warm greeting of doorman, bar-man and old fives partners.

Their lives peaked sometime during a Colts cricket match, aged 15, and they have been grasping ever since for those faint whiffs of matron, linoleum and starched shirts.

The Jermyn Street sales provide them with this as well as a handsome, hard-wearing suit for as little as £200. Well cut, plain or striped, it will look better and last longer than anything from the noisier outlets on Bond Street.

At Harvie and Hudson, for example, a covert coat, ideal for the races, goes for only £325, a bargain when you compare an equivalent designer number. In New and Lingwood, which straddles the

Piccadilly Arcade, a silk dressing gown is 5300 down from £400. All you need is the cigarette holder. marrons glaces, a line in fruity put-downs and bang, Noël Coward. Cashmere socks, city shirts, ties and pyjamas are all down at prices not just reserved for the

Duke of Norfolk Inside all these shops, however. the outfitters have the hang-dog looks of those gloomy Russian poets condemned to work the salt mines. Thankfully for them, in a couple of weeks the sale signs will disappear, and the usual flanelly fug will envelop the place once

more. Then they can return to behaving like butlers in stately homes, simultaneously superior and grovelling and probably still living with their mothers.

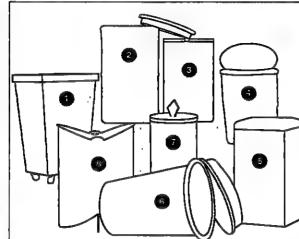
Giles Coren is away

# Anything else iust won't wash

THERE IS every excuse to do your dirty washing in public with the latest laundry baskets in materials and styles to suit every taste, from retro plastics and traditional wicker to eco-friendly recycled paper. Sudi Pigott sorts through a bevy of baskets that make a style statement.



ABOVE: inflatable plastic laundry bin available in luminous orange, yellow or blue, £29, from the Conran Shop, 81 (0171-589 7401)



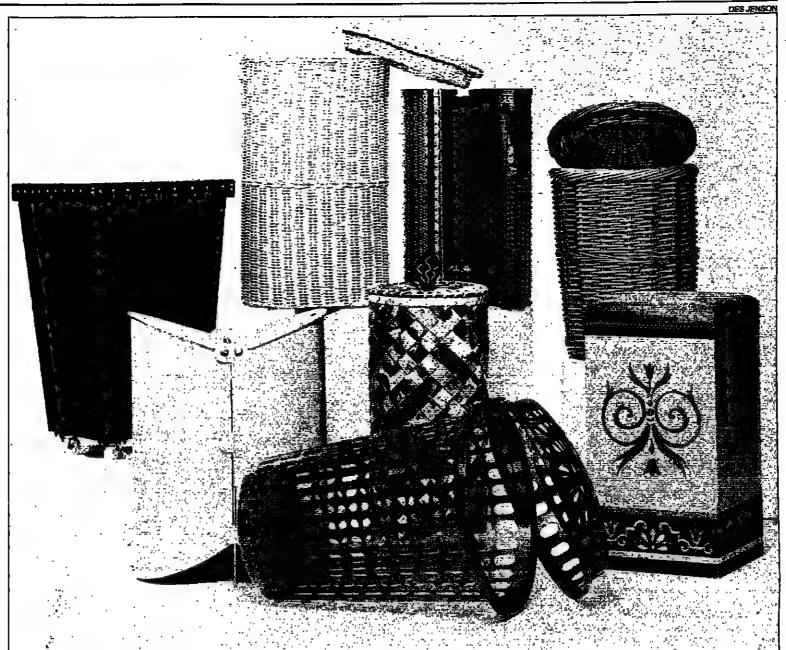
1 Black or red resin-board "mobile" laundry basket on castors, 259, from Aero, 96 Westbourne Grove, London W2 (0171-221 1950) 2 Balsa peeled rattan laundry bin, £55, from Habitat, available from the end of February (0643 334433)

3 Perforated design chrome laundry bin, available in two sizes, 35cm (£75) and 40cm (£97), from Purvis & Purvis (0171-580 8223) 4 Capacious traditional natural woven willow laundry basket, £27.95, from McCord Design (mail order, 0990 535455) 5 Handpainted linen-covered laundry basket with padded seat-lid

decorated with icanthus leaves in muted classical shades of cream, blue and bronze, £260, from Renwick & Clarke, 190 Ebury Street, London SW1 (0171-730 8913) 6 Holey 1950s-style bin in translucent plain red, blue or iliac plast £12.99, from Brats, 281 King's Road, London SW3 (0171-351 7674)

7 Handwoven patchwork multicoloured laundry basket made of recycled card, designed by Lois Walpole, £125 plus £4.50 p&p. (mail order, 0171-538 5308) 8 Eclipse birch plywood laundry bin with two sections to separate writes and coloureds. Each section is also the size of a standard

washing machine so you know when it's time to do a wash. It costs £95 from Ocean (mail order, 0800 132985)



## 'Her father began to disapprove of all that necking'

Continued from page I move through the sheer quali-

absence of sentimentality. Anne Frank's story is well known. She wrote her diary from her thirteenth birthday until forced to stop when the hiding place in which they had been safe for about two years was raided by the SS on August 4, 1944. The eight people hiding in the Annexe to 203 Prinsengracht, Amsterdam, were taken prisoner. along with two of their

he eight people were Anne; her older sister Margot: her parents Otto and Edith: another family, the Van Pels from Osnabrűck in Germany teatled the Van Daan family by Anne Frankl: and, lastly, the latecomer Fritz Pfeffer, the dentist called Albert Dussel in the diary, also originally from

Anne observed them closely. and her strictures on Dussel make for hilarious reading. adoring children but, in fact, did little but criticise all three young people - and hog the one and only lavatory for large parts of the day.

In a less than kind moment and one can see why her fellow residents in the Annexe did not always think Anne was kind - she wrote a timetable for Dussel's use of the lavatory:

"Dussel now sits on the 'bog', to borrow the expres-

on the dot," it begins. It is the like, that would produce as

many teenage giggles today. Anne records her father's falling out with Dussel because of an insult. "Not one of us knows what he said, but it must have been pretty awful," Anne wrote.

greater and, in fact, they must have been betrayed. One is left wondering how much Dussel was to blame for insisting on having fresh air.

The Jews were transported to Westerbork, the transit camp in the north of Holland, from which they were deport-ed on September 3, in the last transport to leave before the war ended.

Three days later, they arrived at Auschwitz in Poland. Margot and Anne were transported from Auschwitz at the end of October to Bergen-Belsen, where conditions were appalling. A typhus epidemic killed Margot and Anne in late February or early March 1945. Bergen-Belsen was liberated by British troops on April 12,

Anne's father, Otto, was the only one to survive the camps, of the eight who had been in hiding, and he later devoted himself to publishing his daughter's diary, which appeared in 1947.

The Diary of a Young Girl has been treasured by million. But its authenticity has frequently been challenged, and Otto Frank and the Nether-

The risks were growing

Happy and smiling. Anne Frank (third from right) walking with her family in 1940

lands State Institute for War Documentation, to whom Frank willed Anne's manuscripts, plus the Anne Frank Foundation which inherited the copyrights, have frequent-ly been called to defend it.

As a result, a critical edition was published some years ago, after a series of court cases confirmed its authenticity. That critical edition contains this new material; most readers will have read only the shorter version, published soon after the war.

That volume has enthralled young readers particularly, who have identified with the young girl describing her experiences during the war in occupied Holland. Its freshness of tone. its vivid depiction of the horrors of being in hiding, its matter-of-fact acceptance of the horrors befalling the Jews of Europe, and its daily reflections on many of the less than endearing habits of the residents of the Annexe, have always been captivating. But the decision to publish this unabridged version of the diary to the wider public throws a new light on Anne Frank and her writing, which I read and re-read as a girl. As with Jane Evre, when Charlotte Brontë wrote about Lowood School. Anne's diary as shameful, and Otto Frank. altogether understandably, tells a story that is true, memomitted the passages. orable, important and strong-But for us modern readers. ly personalised. It is a modern

body, particularly her sexual organs, her periods, her feelclassic, not just the moving memoir of a young girl's fate at the hands of the Nazis. ings for Peter, a young man of nearly 16 when they were first in hiding, her sense of frustrancluded in the new vertion and her attitudes to sion are things that Otto Frank, for a variety of paternal disapproval, all add reasons, had omitted up to a thoroughly modern from the original version. look at a young girl's world, all Here we have Anne discussing the more remarkable because of her enforced limited her sexuality in a way unexpected in a 13-year-old even horizons:

"I've told you more about now, frankly and unsentimentally. In 1947, open discusmyself and my feelings than I've ever told a living soul, so sion of sexuality was regarded

Anne on the subject of her

STARTING ON MONDAY IN THE TIMES

## THE SECRET LIFE OF ANNE FRANK

Exclusive extracts from the new edition of Anne Frank's diary, including the candid entries censored until now

why shouldn't that include tenderness and gratitude. Ev- century mind. Had she lived, sex?" she writes.

worse for the young couple, because they were in hiding: they had nowhere to go to be

Then Anne writes

about her grow-

Peter, there is terrific excitement, but also the familiar embarrassment that any teenager would recognise. Sometimes he comes down to get me, but that's awkward too, because in spite of all his precautions his face turns bright red and he can hardly get the words out of his

mouth... Mother has virtually forbidden me to go up to Peter's, since, according to her, Mrs van Daan is jealous...

Do you think Father and Mother would approve of a girl of my age sitting on a divan and kissing a seventeenand-a-half year old boy? I doubt they would, but I have to trust my own judgment in this matter. It's so peaceful and..."

That was on April 17, 1944. By August, they were in a ncentration camp. She never had the chance to grow up completely, to have the sexual experiences she imagined, even to explore further with the gentle Peter, after her father began to disapprove of all that necking.

But it is not only her reflections on sex and sexuality that so grip the modern reader. Another whole area that Otto Frank omitted was the material about the other residents of the Annexe, and particularly the unflattering passages about his wife, who died in Auschwitz in early 1945. Anne's relationship with her mother was far from good, and indeed typical of strained relationships between mother and teenage daughter in many families.

The very honesty of its description must have been hard for Otto Frank to take postwar, grieving both for his wife and daughters, and knowing their terrible fate.

The decision to publish now, when almost everyone involved is dead, except for the last of the helpers. Miep Santrouschitz Gies, is the right one. No one can now be hurt by what is contained in Anne's private diary. Miep knew of it anyway, and is described with

Anne herself. Yet from this

version we get a new picture. It is an utterly modern work: it allows us to see how a vivid imagination, a firm style, and a gritty determination added up to a burgeoning young writer of skill, with a

sharp, inquiring, late 20th-

eryone else is only a memory, she would now be 67. One can be a distinguished writer or journalist, with a sympathetic

ear for the young. Her one work makes it clear that she should have had a glittering career. This was taken from her, but what she makes compelling reading.

#### THE TIMES DILLONS FORUM

#### **Anne Frank evening** with Janet Suzman, Terry Waite

and Joely Richardson TO CELEBRATE the publication of the definitive edition of Anne Frank's The Diary of a Young Girl. readers of The Times are invited to an evening of readings and discussion

on Wednesday, February 5, at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WCl at 7.30pm. Janet Suzman, Joely Richardson and Terry Waite will read from this unabridged edition of the diary, and Buddy Elias, Anne's only surviving cousin, will discuss the enduring appeal of the diary and his memories of Anne. There will also be excerpts from Jon Blair's Oscar-

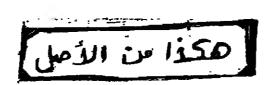
winning documentary Anne Frank Remembered, and an

opportunity for the audience to question the panel. Tickets for the forum at £10 (concessions for OAPs, students and the unemployed at £7.50 on production of appropriate identification), which includes £2 off the price of The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank, the Definitive Edition (Viking, £16), are available by phoning 0171-467

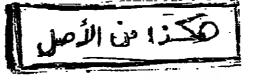
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necklines, says Heath Brown





outrageous choices. A good selection of unusual and beautiful cufflinks can be found at Paul Smith (as shown below), T.M. Lewin of Jermyn Street, WI, and branches of Liberty.

street examples from Jigsaw, Oasis, Warehouse and Marks

The ultimate, of course, is the made to measure bespoke shirt at prices from around £80 to £130. Look up shirtmakers in your local telephone directory. Fabric choice is

yours (you can even take along

your own) but make sure you

pick a good cotton poplin, a strong silk or a smooth broad-

cloth and choose your buttons

well. Poor quality fastenings can spoil a garment. For

added effect, ask for double

& Spencer (shown right).

est buys in shirts

range from designer elections at Gucci, Cerruti and Salvatore Ferragamo to good high

at necking

TIMES DILLONS FORE

Prim collars and cuffs can be combined with plunging .Hot under the collar he current look for women's shirts can-French cuffs that famen with a not be achieved just Hair and make-up by by borrowing a man's shirt and going for the loose and casual feel. Styles may generous and go for a larger collar with a wider stand which can elongate the look of your neck. If you are wide-hipped, go for an overall fitted appear very masculine but the Cufflink photographs by way they are worn is ultrafeminine — a figure-hugging line unbuttoned almost to the shape but leave a little more room at the waist to create an hour-glass illusion. Forget any adornment such as ties and scarves, this can Gucci started it off last year with sultry, deep-plunging shirts with traditional collars. look too 1980s, a decade which and cuffs - and other designers and high street labels have is not yet far enough away to be fully revived. Also, avoid followed suit. It is schoolmarm the country-girl pearls-under-the-collar trick or the temptameets 1970s glamour.
The New Shirt is a versatile tion to stand the collar up. Just look that fits in to a more formal work situation while sharp, simple and feminine is best. As always, less is more not looking out of place after clocking off. It goes well with the softest of suits or can be worm to the same effect with

ABOVE: Pink and blue striped shirt, £42.50, Thomas Pink, 85 Jermyn Street, SW1 and branches (0171-498 2202). Blue fist-front trousers, £83, Armand Basi, 12 Floral Street, WC2 (0171-278 4843). Black sandals, £44.99, Ravel, branches nationwide (0171-631 0224)

> mesh cufflinks, £45, Smith, 41-43 Floral Street, London WC2 (0171-379 7133) and

from Harrods.

Purple cufffinks, £18, available from Marks & Spencer, 458 Oxford Street London W1 and at selected branches (0171-935 4422)

LEFT: Slue shirt, £30, Marks & Spancer,

458 Oxford Street, W1 and selected branches nationwide (0171-935 4422)



Square silver cuttlinks

with black stone, 245,

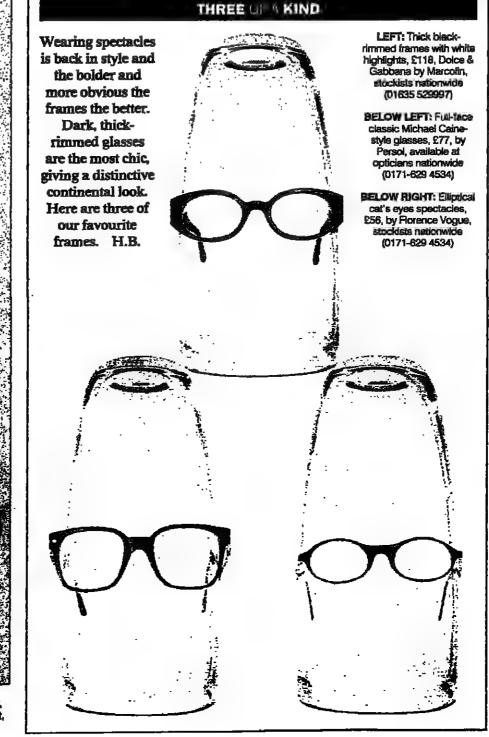
available from Paul

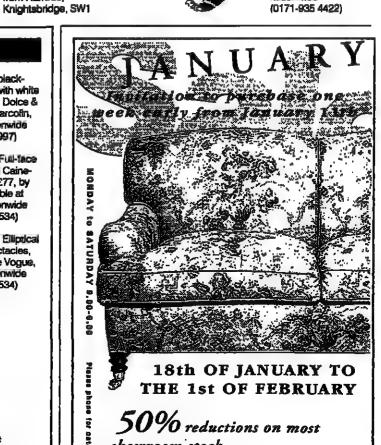
Smith, 41-43 Floral

Street, London WC2

(0171-379 7133) and

Green striped shirt, £140, Pauline Burrows, made to order (0181-694 9373); Square, 3-4 The Corridor, Bath; Matches, 38 High Street, Wimbledon; Corniche, 2 Jeffery Street, Edinburgh. Oatmeal tweed skirt, £45, Jigsaw, 126-127 New Bond Sreet, W1 and branches nationwide (0171-491 4484)





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# Having the thyme of her life

Jekka McVicar doesn't let the cold interfere with her

herb farm, says

Jane Owen

ven in winter. Jekka McVicar has a smorgasbord of growing herbs: fennel. sweet marjoram, pineapple mint (with its creamy, whiteedged leaves which go well in a fruit salad), English mace (for turkey and game), pungent, oily basil mint (for salad dressing), camphor thyme (for game), and the delicate, tiny, evergreen leaves of salad burnet with their startling cucumber flavour. That's on top of the regulars which are a part of any herb fan's menu: 40 varieties of thyme, some bay, some rosemary and lavender.

Ms McVicar started to grow herbs 20 years ago at her home near Bristol while working as a flautist in a rock band, Marsupilami. After marrying Mac. a space engineer, and the arrival of two children she began to farm herbs commercially and is erecting a three-section polyturnel to add to the three existing polynumels she has on a windy two acre sight at Alveston, north of Bristol.

Her passion for herbs is infectious. As Ms McVicar walks through each polytunnel caressing the plants, their perfumes are released into the air lemon, musk, rose, eucalyptus, honey and camphor. Fennel plants, which were sown last August, are 8in high and wave their delicate foliage at the snow outside. Lemon balm, too, thrives through the winter. It needs to be cut to ground level as soon as it gets tall and straggly, and then its low-lying dome of pale green leaves will survive the cold.

Scents given off are not all charming: some. like a mint recently sent in by a customer, can smell of urine. Ms McVicar suggests eating a mint leaf at the onset of migraine.

Most of the herbs grow happily in unheated tunnels, or even outside. The pineapple mint survives outside, albeit slightly blackened. But one tunnel, containing show plants, is kept at about 38F. Pompoms of bay, specimen plants of rosemary and lavender, a couple of olive trees, and low-clipped hedges of box and curry plants are being crimped and preened ready for future exhibitions by the Royal Horticultural Society or for this year's Chelsea Flower Show. where they will help to create a base for instant gardens. Last year, at the



Jekka McVicar in one of the cold polytunnels she uses to grow herbs throughout the year. Exhibition plants are grown in a heated tunnel

RHS Christmas show. Ms McVicar won a gold medal, despite manning her stand dressed as a garden gnome. Gnomes are banned by the RHS.

Alongside the show exhibits in her heated tunnel, a rare white-flowered sage snuggles beside the shrub Eriocephalus africanus, whose clusters of small, white flowers appears only at this time of year. The silver foliage, which looks like a cross between lavender and rosemary, gives a hint of the desert with a whiff

Another plant with the near him of eucalyptus, and of sweetness and pines, is Balm of Gilead (Cedronella canariensis). It looks like a small rose

sucker and has a good scent. Ms McVicar says that sniffing the leaves can ward off flu and colds; if that fails, soak the leaves in a bowl of steaming water as an inhalation or

hatever mood you are in herbs can make you feel good, Ms McVicar says. went into herbs because I've always been passionate about them, like cooking, and on the whole you can stick to English when ralking about them."

Although she does not use chemicals she cannot claim the official organic accreditation because, when

plants are ready to be sent to garden centres or by mail order, she gives them a dose of slow-release fertiliser. In Germany this system is accepted.

Ms McVicar is irrepressible in whatever she does, and so are her susband and children, which is handy because the herb farm has been a struggle. Setting it up meant the family living in a makeshift hut for two years while the children were barely three and four years old. Now, the children's room in the hut is used as the label store and the parents' bedroom as a mail-order seed storing room. The family has now moved into a once-derelict cottage which

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SELLUS OFFER



STEPHEN ANDERTON

planted a stag's horn sumach for auturn colour but, because it suckered badly and did not colour well, I cut it down. My neighbour now has a line of its suckers making trees under his side of the fence, and more suckers keep creeping back to my side. My neighbour is happy to have his trees, but how do I deal with the suckers on my side? - Miss M. Doe, Herne Bay, Kent.

Rhus typhina will sometimes, but not always, produce excellent, fiery autumn colour. The female plant is said to be better than the male for colour. It makes a small tree or large shrub, and usually meets its end by getting too large for its shallow roots. It suckers a lot. The more you damage its roots by gardening under it, the more suckers are produced. Either out down the suckers in your garden and treat the fresh stumps with RootOut, or remove the invading root as far as the fence. I doubt if RootOut, applied to suckers here, would damage your neighbour's trees. It would be interesting to know what case law says about damage. to, and ownership of, a plant coming from your neighbour's garden, but which began life in yours.

My 4fittali outdoor olesunder is ten years old but does not open many flowers. It gets morning sun until noon. Should I move it to a sunnier border, or leave it and take entings? If so, how and when? - J. Mouraut, St Saviour, Jersey. A You are right to look for a sunnier position.

warmth they can get. If you

wish to move it, do so in fate

in June or July, under plastic, from 3in 4in halfripe shoots, inserted in a shaded compost. Q Electricity board workmen cut back beech, willow and cypress trees in my garden under power lines, and shredded the prunings down to a pile of mulch, which they said would be usable in six

February or early March.

with a big rootball of soil

attached. Cuttings are made

months. I have a new, 160vard leylandii hedge which I wish to mulch, but have been told by a neighbour that the mulch will be too acidic, because it has a conferous content. How soon could I use the mulch, and is it suitable? -J.W. Follows, Saffron Wal-

A purely coniferous mulch can be on the scid side, but yours is mixed. Even if it were on the acid side, it would not harm your leylandii. Newly, shredded prunings are best left in a heap to heat up and decay before spreading. But, unless they are to be spread thickly, this is not vital. What is more important is to keep the mulch off the young trunks, and if the mulch is fine, to spread a layer thick enough to conserve soil moisture but not so thick as to resist rain penetration. Three inches is enough of a fine mulch, but coarser, less dense mulches, such as bark chips, can be spread more thickly.

• Readers should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington St. London El 9XN. We regret that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also

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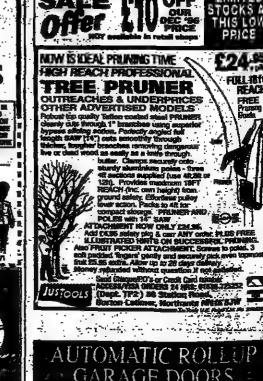
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# It'll be all white on the night

Attractive, glistening patterns in a lawn covered in frost or snow can be planned. Stephen Anderton explains how you

can create your own designs that will last all winter through

tion to walk over a heavily frosted lawn to see the pattern made by foot-prints. But crushing frosted grass leaves blackened prints for weeks. A far better way to achieve pat-terned grass in winter frost is to create the patterns earlier in the year with a lawnmower.

It is a technique which is used not nearly enough. Different lengths of grass, all short, are established in the lawn during the moving season, in a formal or organic pattern to suit the garden and the gardener. The beauty of this is that the pattern remains throughout winter, giving a constant contrast of lines and textures. Like crisply cut topiary or hedges, lawns can sud-denly come to life when highlighted by a scattering or even a crust of the

A low winter sun can produce the same affect, making shadows across the lawn where one cutting regime gives way to another. Even bright moonlight will do the trick: on a bright, frosty night it is wonderful to see the sharpened geometry of a patterned lawn,

glittering and still The texture of the grass regimes is important, because different lengths of grass, be they half an inch, an inch, or two inches, all take on different aspects in frost or light snow. Longer, especially rotary-cut grass, allows a powdering of snow to fall between the stalks, leaving only a lightly coloured sward. Dense, close-mown lawn will make a platform for the snow, which will look distinctly whiter.

Castlebank Park, in Lanark, Scotland, has a patterned lawn which you might almost call minimalist turf sculpture. It sits on an old tennis court and was installed a few years ago by the designer Graeme Moore. Now, each spring. the park has an open day - with brass bands, children's games and gardening demonstrations — and a patterned lawn is mown for the new season by Mr Moore.

Grass patterns are simple to set up and need little attention. I had one for a couple of years and the

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children used it as a kind of giant snakes and ladders board. They had strong opinions about what form the pattern should take, according to how useful it was going to be for games.

You can start with any quality of lawn. Think about what the pattern is meant to achieve to give direction to the lawn or lead the eye with a central "path" to a summerhouse? Will it be a concentric pattern focused on a central sundial? Or a direction-less sampler of shapes a network of circles, squares, triangles and rectangles?

In a garden with an open centre of lawn surrounded by beds, the design might be a circle of slightly longer grass, with finer turf at the edges where lawn meets border.

TEEKEND TIPS

Avoid walking on crocuses

survive, break open a small

area of frozen ponds, or

float a ball in the water to

Dress with time areas

of the vegetable garden

watering cans or tanks full.

so that the water, when

needed for pots, is not icy

Spray fruit trees with a

to kill overwintering eggs

Avoid walking on the

foliage of autumn-flowering

crocuses emerging in turi.

tar-oil wash in still weather,

intended for brassicas.

Keep greenhouse.

from the tap.

of insect pests.

To help wildlife

discourage freezing.

grass first, followed by the longer grass (it is easier just to raise the height of the machine and run over the whole lawn again). It makes sense in wet weather to have the shorter grass in those places where you walk most. For the best contrasts, a cylinder mower is used on the short grass

> machine, either will do. To heighten the contrast, keep the short grass weedfree, and allow the longer areas to develop their

a grassbox. But if you have only one

low when the growing season starts. The longer in-between pieces

can be left for a week or so to grow

and develop a contrast. Then, the

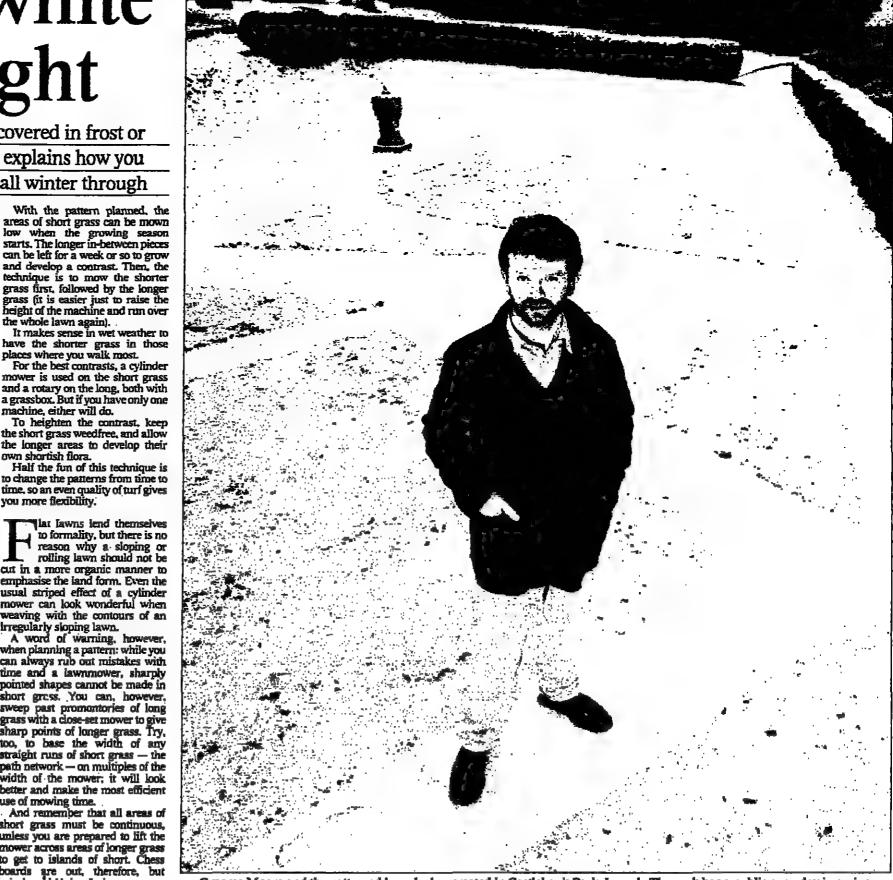
technique is to mow the shorter

Half the fun of this technique is to change the patterns from time to time, so an even quality of turf gives you more flexibility.

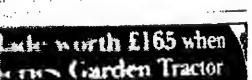
lat lawns lend themselves to formality, but there is no reason why a sloping or rolling lawn should not be cut in a more organic manner to emphasise the land form. Even the usual striped effect of a cylinder mower can look wonderful when weaving with the contours of an Irregularly sloping lawn.
A word of warning, however,

when planning a pattern: while you can always rub out mistakes with time and a lawnmower, sharply pointed shapes cannot be made in short gress. You can, however, sweep past promontories of long grass with a close-set mower to give sharp points of longer grass. Try, too, to base the width of any straight runs of short grass — the path network - on multiples of the width of the mower; it will look better and make the most efficient use of mowing time.

And remember that all areas of short grass must be continuous, unless you are prepared to lift the mower across areas of longer grass to get to islands of short. Chess boards are out, therefore, but spirals and Union Jacks are easy.

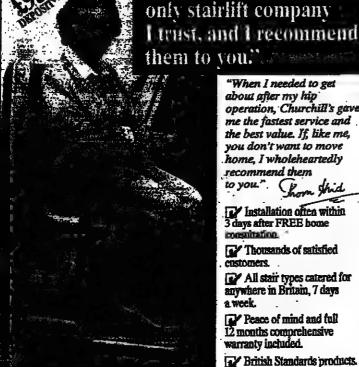


Graeme Moore and the patterned lawn he has created in Castlebank Park, Lanark. The park has a public open day in spring



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## Announcing: a great millennium architectural competition to lead the whole of Britain up the garden path

t is all very well for the world's leading architects to be planning A temples of homage to the new millennium, but what about some edifice we can all enjoy, especially country dwellers? It is all very well turning the old Greenwich gasworks into the greatest thing since the Crystal Palace and flinging spidery bridges across the Thames, but there is not much in any of these grand projects for those of us who are stuck out here.

So I announce a competition for only the most imaginative architects: those brave enough to be associated with a truly revolutionary yet comfortingly retro project. But first, if you happen to be one of those designers who thinks that things built of glass have some kind of allure, be warned, for reasons which will become obvious: this is no project for those who deal in transparency.

It all started under the Christmas tree, with the gift of a new nightshirt. It is of the purest cotton, striped, as well cut as a Jermyn Street shirt and long enough to reach the ankles and exclude even the most penetrating breeze. "Very authen-

# Privy to a nation's greatness

tic," my brother-in-law said as I held it chamberpot, but up. "Almost worth building an outside now that I was five lavatory to go with it."

He was, of course, quite right, A glib aside often gets to the truth of the matter far more swiftly than a considered argument. Those few words of his brought me face to face with what has been a great lack in my life what I have been missing all these years is a privy.

Those of you who have used (or perhaps still use) an outside lavatory will imagine that this is yet another flight of whimsy. "He wouldn't want one if he'd tried one," you will cry. shivering in the Arctic blast. But I have used one. Admittedly the memory is blurred, because I was only five, but the horror of it sticks in the mind. It was at my great-aunt's cottage, where electricity had yet to reach and where running water came from a pump. On earlier visits my tender years had allowed me the use of the

I was reckoned old enough for "the

God, it was bleak out there: whitewash flaked from the wall, fungus grew like vegetation in a rainforest, the spiders arm-wrestled each other on the ceiling, and the only light came from the gap between the door and its

frame. This was just as well, because it prevented my impressionable gaze falling on what might be the other side of the hole. Moreover, there was no lavatory seat in the accepted sense - just a hole in

DOWN TO EARTH



and a galvanised bucket beneath. Plucking up all my courage, I glanced briefly, like a child in a house of horrors, hardly daring to open his tightly shut eyes. It looked dark and deep in there. Age brings a cer-tain wisdom and I

now see that, far

from being some

form of punish-

ment, the privy could easily provide that temporary release we all seek from the pressure of everyday life. Would it not be fastidiously hygienic to distance these functions from

the home in gypsy style and thus provide

a perfect place for peaceful reflection? Imagine it a few moments in the morning when we could leave the house, flee those disgruntled voices on the Today programme and enjoy thoughts of our own. Instead of runing into the weather forecast, we would glance at the sky as we tripped down the garden path and feel, if you will excuse the expression. the direction of the wind on our cheeks. And no one to disturb us but spiders.

We need a privy for the new millenri-um. If global warming has the devastating impact that is forecast, there will come a point when the flushing has to stop. You do not need a flush in a privy. just a shovel of earth. And disposal? Well, there is nothing better for a vegetable garden than properly composted waste, .
If the idea of spreading your residues on what you will eventually eat strikes you. as disgusting, remember that at present we pump it into the sea and swim in it. As

for lavatory paper. I suggest it will become scarce with a realisation that we cannot continue pulping the world's forests to produce something that feels soft and strong — but only for the briefest moment. Instead, we shall return to be nail behind the door with squares of newspaper threaded on a string. Broad-

sheets will, as usual, be better value. The time has come for architects to design us the privy of the future. There is no reason why it should be damp. draughty or smelly. Let us draw on the lessons we have learnt from the great

buildings of the world. It is a great challenge. If any draughtsman thinks it might be beneath him, let me remind him that what I have in mind is little more than a scaled-down Canary is little more than a scaled-down Canary Wharf. In shape, anyway. Little boys have been told for generations to "do their duty": it is now time for all those with the ability to go and do theirs. A flat-pack version might be a good idea; I have this image in my mind of them being bought at DIY centres and taken home on the roof of Volvos. Go to it! No prize, just the satisfaction of a grateful nation.



Local residents of Stedham, West Sussex, who are protesting at the proposed fencing of the common. Conservationists favour grazing by cattle and ponies as the best way of looking after the habitat. But livestock has to be fenced in

# Middle England fights on common ground

he country commons of England are an unlikely battle-ground. But across their heather and birchcovered acres the forces of conservation face ranks of dog walkers and ramblers. One side wants to fence the land and protect threatened species. The other wants the freedom

to wander as it has done for

Conservationists are at loggerheads with dog walkers and ramblers over generations, without having to look for gates.

"It would be extraordinarily irresponsible to bow to the pressures of locals, mostly dog tional importance," says Robin Crane, chairman of the Royal Society for Nature Conservation, now involved in a

how best to preserve the country's heath commons, says Jill Parkin were any doubt about the

walkers, on a site of interna-

biodiversity - the naturalists' buzz word -- they are needed to keep the vegetation low and to prevent the heathland's return to woodland. Commons were grazed until the last war. But then there was much less traffic. These days you cannot safely release stock to roam without fencing it in. And, whatever some conservationists claim about townie newcomers to the coun-

scientific value of grazing."

Over the past few years

animals - mainly cartle and

ponies - have been returning

to heath commons scattered

throughout southern Eng-land. In the interests of

meeting a cow, it is the fencing which really annoys. "There's a prospect of every bit of common being fenced off banner," says Jane Hunt, who is leading the opposition to fencing and grazing plans for Iping and Stedham Commons near Midhurst, West Sussex. A keen dog walker, she works

try who are frightened of

row over commons in West as a reporter on the local Sussex. "It is not as if there paper. "The conservation paper. The conservation bandwagon has rolled on, gathering pace. It has developed into a culture of its own and the people who actually live in the country are beginning to say: There must be room for us.' There has to be a balance between the needs of the community and the needs

of wildlife. "Man-management can achieve very nearly what graz-ing achieves. This headlong rush to protect beetles and moss is fine if a balance is maintained. But it looks as if we shall be faced with an ugly stockade punctuated with occasional gates. Something attractive will be lost and replaced with another bit of

agricultural land." Someone must speak up, though, for the beetles and the moss. And the lizards, adders, nightjars, hobbies, Dartford warblers, stonechats and woodlarks which live among the equally precious purple moorgrass, bell heather and sundews, plants which trap insects and digest them. Mr Crane is a member of



Silver-studded blue butterfly attended by friendly ants

the management committee of the Iping and Stedham local nature reserve, as well as chairman of the RSNC. He lives in Midhurst. In Denmark, Holland and Britain, 94.3 per cent of heathland has gone. That is the international scale of things. In West Sussex, 90 per cent of our heathland disappeared be-tween 1813 and 1981," he says. "We are losing a rich natural habitat which is full of species

that are not found anywhere else. Grazing by cattle and ponies is the best way of looking after this habitat. Man-management is secondbest. Maintaining wet heather by hand is practically impossi-ble. On top of all that, because the heather has not been grazed, fire is a real risk."

It is a particular risk for the heathland's most famous resident, the silver-studded blue butterfly. Deep in the bell heather, ants milk the caterpillar of the blue for a sugary fluid that is rich in amino acids. Then, in a weird way of saying thank you, they build a hideaway of chalk and other debris for the chrysalis, pro-tecting it from predators and

parasites. They attend the emergent butterfly while its wings dry and until it flies off.

Man-management is expensive. Doing it by hand—

street, by the street of the street of the street. removing young tree plants, controlling bracken and burning scrub and heather - on these two adjacent Sussex commons costs about £7,200 a year. Grazing is cheaper, even with the initial cost of fencing. The idea is to make the fencing disappear into the landscape as much as possible, taking advantage of shrubs and the lie of the land. There will be gates, and oncewalkers are on the common they will be free to wander as they do now. But it will look

English commons anyway are not what they once were: the least fertile part of the medieval manors that were kept for the use of the commoners living around. Com-moners' rights were grazing. estovers (firewood), pannage (acorns), piscary (fish) and stone and gravel to repair their cottages. Now there are hardly any commoners, but there is a tradition of open land.

ccording to Mr Crane, many objectors are won over Lonce the conservationists' bandwagon has parked on their patch. He quotes 26 examples of fencing and grazing, including Headley Heath in Surrey, Chudleigh in Devon and Bartley in Hampshire, "No injuries to people or dogs," he says, "and an increase in visitors since grazing. The livestock becomes an attraction." Somewhere in between the naturalists and the country

dwellers are the politicians. No commons can be fenced and grazed without the permission of the Environment Secretary. Ownership is often complicated, management even more so. In our Sussex example, Stedham is owned by the Sussex Wildlife Trust, Iping is owned in three separate parcels by two grand estates and the West Sussex County Council. The two commons are managed by a combination of the Trust, the Council and the Sussex Downs Conservation Board.

They are falling out with each other. John Godfrey. deputy clerk to the Board, says: "We are going for the traditional British compromise. It was trench warfare with the local people in the summer." The Board has made concessions to public opinion. The Trust is not

pleased with its ally: The idea of cattle grids has been dropped, the fencing and grazing of lping have been put on hold, but the proposals for Stedham go ahead. The compromise is scornfully dismissed by Mr Crane as "classic Yes, Minister". To the dog walkers of Stedham and Iping it is just not enough. Realings are running high in the commons of England.

# Heady antics for the taming of the smew

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MDEGA

THIS IS smew time on the waters of the West. Smews are small duck from corthern Russia that appear in large numbers in the Netherlands in winter, congregating along the Rhine and on the lisselmeer. When the weather gets very cold, some of them cross the North Sea to Britain.

along the Thames valley. There are plenty around just now. Many of them are "redheads" — females and juvenile birds, which have a chestnut cap and gleaming white cheeks. But there are also some drakes about and they

are a spectacular sight.

They have white heads with a black eye-patch and a thin black streak behind it Their backs and wings are black. but as they float on the water these parts are not conspicuous and the oirds look almost snow whate. Both sexes have a small crest which blows about in the wind.

The ducks belong to the sawbill family, which dive for fish and have a jagged edge along the inside of their beaks to hold their wriggling prey before swallowing it. Diving alongside them you may see goosanders, which are also sawbills, and at a distance look creamy white with bottlegreen heads for chestnut brown in the case of the

A third winter visitor which often completes the diving party is the goldeneye, a lively linle duck — not a sawbill which often goes about in pairs. The drake goldeneye has a green head with a white. coin-shaped check-patch and the bright vellow eye that gives it its name

When the smews take wing. it is a dramatic sight. They seem to jump off the water into the air, unlike many duck,

### FEATHER REPORT



Smews are winter visitors to Britain from northern Russia

nation. In flight they look

oddly long for such small

birds, because like the other

sawbills they hold their necks

very straight. Most other duck

dip their heads and necks

which go pattering along the water for a long way before they can get up into the air. On the wing smews are very agile, the small flocks swerving or dropping with expert co-ordi-

forward slightly as they fly. How fast-flying flocks of birds like smews co-ordinate their movements is a question that has received some study lately. It seems that changes of direction are generally initiated by a bird on the outside of a flock turning inwards. It may do that because it sees a collision coming up, for example, or because it has spotted a

Its neighbours turn immediately too, and then their neighbours. The movement spreads like lightning through the whole flock, and off it goes

in a new direction. Some smews will stay in Britain until the end of winter. and start their spring displays before they leave. This is where their-crests come in The drakes swim towards their prospective mates, movtheir heads backwards

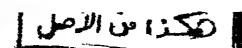
forwards, their crests

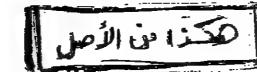
crests in a peculiar way, with two or three feathers standing up alone like a quill at the front of their skulls, and the

rest raised separately behind. The display evidently achieves its purpose, because they go back in pairs to sub-Arctic Finland and Russia to breed. There they make their nests in holes in trees by the lakes and rivers, and hatch large numbers of eggs before the high northern winter closes in and they seek the more hospitable waters of western Europe again.

DERWENT MAY What's about Birders - take care

What's about Birders—take care
not to disturb congregations of
wild fowl and waters during the
freezing weather. Twitchers—
black throated thrush,
Hollingwood, Derbyshire, saow
goose, Doking, Norfolk;
bufflehead, Hornsen Hore, East
Yorkshire, Details from Birdine,
hos J 201222 Lotte over the a min raised. But they hold their cheap rate, 50p at other times.





# Don't let your house catch a cold

Kerryn Brooker offers a step-by-step guide to protecting

your home against the perils of winter

WINTER has been far from kind this year. A series of unseasonally sharp and very cold bursts have underlined to householders the problems that can arise when your house is not fully equipped.

Knowing what needs to be done to prepare your house for the cold is not complicated and is more a matter of vigilance than high-tech. One of the main dangers to a house is water. In this way houses are a bit like human beings: if they get wet and stay wet they catch a cold - often an expensive one. According to both the British Wood and Damp Coursing Association and the Building Research Establishment (BRE), the majority of dry rot problems are caused by an "ingress of water".

When the snow and ice have melted, take a quick trip around your home. is the garden full of leaves? If so, examine the guttering that runs around the roof. This may be a tall order but do what you can. A section of your roof may be within view from in upstairs room, so take a look from there. If it is within safe reach of an opened window, invest in a set of drain rods and a "jointed scraper" attachment (about £30) from any plumbers' supplier. This half-moon shaped device will allow you to push the leaves clear of the guttering.

#### GUTTERING AND DRAINS

Next check the drainage outlets from the house. Make sure that the leaves are not blocking the flow of water. If they are, you'll need to take a spade and remove them. When drainage constantly attracts leaves, you should fit a plastic or mesh cover. If there is a continual problem with leaves in the guttering, mesh covers can also be

For the elusive high section of the roof you will have to wait for a good, downpour. Take your umbrella and wander round the building in the rain. If you can see water splashing down the side of the building, either the guttering is blocked or broken. To inspect a very high roof an extending ladder will be required, which is probably best left to a plumber.

also ask them to take a look at the rest of the roof — the tiles, slates and flashings. If there are any slipped tiles or slates or holes in the flashing. you will need a roofing contractor to fix it. But if it looks in good order you should continue to monitor the roof yourself from inside by making regular inspections.

When there is water running down an external wall you should also look for possible damage to pointing.

peeling paper or damp patches another sure sign of "water ingress". In this situation, you will need to call

In checking for sources of internal water damage make another tour of the house. Are there any leaky taps or fittings in the house? Combined with a few cracked tiles on a shower floor. this is a great recipe for a damaged celling below or fungi growing on the about the pipes? Are all exposed pipes and water tanks lagged? Check for leaks around water tanks, taps, toilets, exposed pipe joints, radiators and flexible hoses to washing ma-chines and dishwashers. If in the recent cold snap your pipes have burst, you must make sure they are lagged after being repaired, or else it will happen again.

It is also a good idea to have your heating system checked yearly. If the boiler runs on gas, the plumber should be Corgi registered. For oilfired installations, look for Offecregistered installers. Always phone

to ask the price of a boiler service. From a quick ring around I found that the cost for an average London house should be no more than £100 for a full system check. Outside London, prices are lower.

No one likes the expense of having to replace a major part of a heating system but if you find yourself in this unhappy position, it is probably better to do it now. As part of its energy conservation drive the Gov ernment, through the Energy Saving Trust, is offering cash back on energy saving products. These include con densing boilers and thermostatic radiator valves. Refunds range from £100 to £200, depending on the products and system. For conditions and information call the Energy Savings Trust on 0345 023005.

Another energy-saving cash-back incentive of £200 is also being offered by the trust for insulation. This only applies to houses with cavity walls,

which rules out the old solid-brick houses, but for keeping in the heat, insulation is a good option. For information ring 0800 0720158.

#### DRAUGHTS

For those of us with old solid-brick houses another walk around the house is in order. This time look or, more precisely, feel the draughts. Unwanted airflow through doors and windows is not too difficult to stop with a range of draught stoppers

Finally, a word about airflow that is needed. While draughts are unwanted, ventilation is essential. According to the BRE many householders have a preference for blocking up vents, either on purpose to stop cold air or inadvertently when adding a patio or conservatory and forgetting about air and drainage levels, ventilation and

even damp-proof coursing. Ventilation clears a building of condensation. Make sure bathrooms and kitchens are properly ventilated

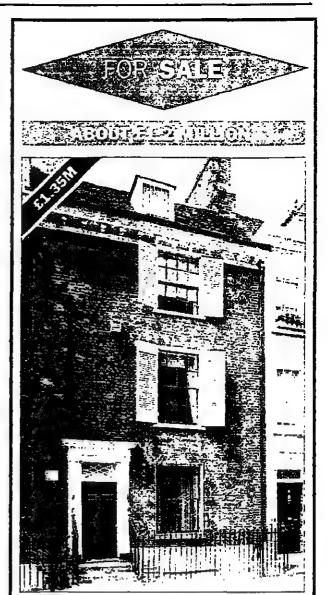
and introduce clearing window panes of condensation into your daily household chores.

This may be a real nuisance but it will be a much more expensive nuisance to replace rotted window frames and sills, not to mention buying new curtains and linings that have become stained and mouldy.

#### CRISIS MANAGEMENT

And if all this is forgotten and you have a mid-winter flood or the pipes where the stop valves and fuses are (check them a couple of times a year) because you will need to turn off the mains water, switch off the hot water and heating boilers, turn off the electricity and call a plumber.

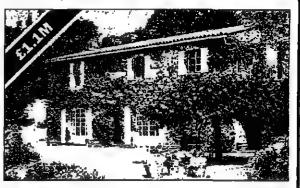
Many of these checks are not as easy to accomplish for older people. As the BRE suggests, if your area has a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, perhaps a winter checking programme could be organised for the older members of the scheme.



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### If things are 'not quite right' with your house, it may be time to bring in a diviner

#### tained a lawn, a path, some shrubs - and a problem with water. So Bill Cooper, a dowser, was called in. After hammering an Sin copper rod into the earth, he

Mr Cooper, who is president of the British Society of Dowsers, can detect water beneath the ground but he ismore frequently asked to help with problems which builders, surveyors and plumbers cannot reach: invisible problems. Call it bad vibrations, call it psychic disturbance, call it something "not quite right" about a house.

"I did see black lines swirfing in the air," says the woman in whose garden Mr Cooper is hammering his copper stake. Mrs Worried of Weybridge, as I had better call her, has arranged for the dowser's house call when her musband is out, since "he sees this as quackery".

g of the smell

And who can blame him? A sceptic would suggest that Mrs W should have her vision tested and that Mr Cooper, a retired general, ought to contact his ex-soldiers' organishimself some form of care in the community. But then a sceptic has not suffered oddities encountered in the W household. A battery-powered toy that works in one part of room, but not in another. Mains equipment that goes

The invisible and incredible are hard to check. Dowsers say that there appear to be force streams running under the landscape. Possibly caused by stresses in the rock below, these "earth energies" are tolerable. But if they are disturbed, for example by trouble "downstream" like

# The art of dowsing away evil waters



Bill Cooper divines for disturbances in "earth energy" streams under the landscape

pollution poured into a river. Some people pick them up. others don't. Mr Cooper finds that a copper pipe hanged into the ground "upstream" acts as a filter to keep out the bad

He has now diagnosed two such perturbed streams flowing under the house. I certainly detect something when I walk across the lawn with a divining kit that consists of two Rangle-rods, like thick bicycle wheel spokes with a right-angle bend. I hold one in

each hand. Suddenly the ends of the "barrels", which I have pointed straight ahead, swing towards each other and cross As I continue walking, they immediately straighten out, oing cross-cycd again after a further eight feet.

Those two points, Mr Cooper says, mark the edges of the rider of the two streams. "A likely story," I would

have said, except that my own experience suggests that the dowser is not leading Mrs W up her own garden path. Some years ago my own house seemed to be suffering from a kind of psychic dry rot. One night I had suddenly become aware of a strange electrical tension in the hall and kitchen. Much worse was an awful feeling of panic - an

Dowsers. Mr Cooper

definitely had an external cause. It existed as a bad smell but no one else in the family seemed to have a mose for it. After some months, I approached the British Society

wide torrent of earth energy was racing under my house. Disturbed by the old excavations for clay at the top of the hill, it was in turn disturbing my peace of mind. His solution was the same: a few inches of copper hammered in at the top of the garden. I made a donation to a charity he runs and that was it. Exorcised, purified, neutralised, earthed, de-energised, call it what you will. One term you can't use is

turned up with his assistant, Jill Mizen, and decided that a

entirely down to the power of suggestion, it would have gone away instantly. Instead, a few nights later I experition among my follicles. For the first time, the bad vibrations came upstairs and began vibrating while I was cleaning my teeth. I sprinted out of the bathroom, furious that this was one more room to be avoided at night.

Tortunately, it turned out be the last splash of the dark stream, the final bubble of the kettle before it cut out. Since then I have been aware of some vaguely electrical force downstairs but these are neutral vibrations.

I tell Mrs W this reassuring story, omitting only the bit in the hathroom. A fortnight later, Mr Cooper tells me that the trouble in her house cleared up after a final outburst "She had a bad experience, like you. She saw things, but now all's well."

Mr W. who knows nothing of this saga, has just walked into the house. "Something feels different," he says.

JONATHAN SALE British Society of Domsers Sycamore Barn, Hastingleigh Ashford, Kent TN25 5HW.

# Le Creuset round grillit pan just £29 inc. p&p

The Times and Le Creuset, the French cookware company, offer you the chance to buy this stylish round grillit pan, with black enamel surface, a cast from handle and 1044" diameter. Following the growing interest in low fat or fat free cooking, the ribbed base on this Le Creuset grillit offers advantages to this style of cooking by collecting the excess oil. Available to Times readers for only £39 each, a saving of £3 on the mrrp of £37.

GRILLED CHICKEN WITH CORIANDER AND LIME: 4 boneless chicken brea

finely grated rind of one lime; 2 tablespoons fresh chopped

Marinade: 2 tablespoons com oil;

freshly ground black pepper.

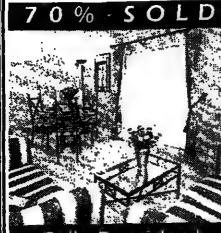
1. Put the pieces of chicken into a non metallic dish. 2. Mix together all the marinade ingredients, pour over the chicken and leave to stand for 1-2 hours, Just before grilling lift the chicken out of the marinade and pat dry on absorbent kitchen paper. 3. Heat the grillit and oil lightly. Cook the chicken breasts for 45 minutes each side. A little of the marinade

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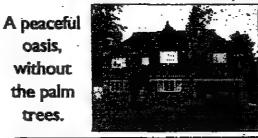
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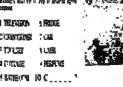
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# A whiter shade of pale

Limed wood is the latest smart finish for floors. Joyce Blake offers a practical guide

floor but want a more subtle effect than painted floorboards, I liming is the new approach. It is hardwearing, practical and, when sealed, requires much less mainte-nance than an oiled or waxed floor. Liming gives an overall white hue to the floor and adds definition to the grain. Liming paste, a thick, white, chalky substance which was originally scrubbed into wood as a disinfec-

tant, has become increasingly popular as a decorative finish. Lola Gaji is a mixed-media artist who has been restoring her Victorian house in London for five years. She decided to use a lime effect on the floors in her basement. "I had to relay the floor because of a serious case of wood-rot," she says.

"When I walk along a beach I am ascinated by driftwood that has been bleached by the sun and sea, and I thought a lime floor would recreate that look. It was easy to do."

The first stage is to establish the type of wood your floor is made from. Hardwoods such as oak, mahogany and teak are the most suitable for liming, because they are porous and grainy. Most floorboards are made from pine which is not porous enough for lime paste. In this case, you can create a force effect using a white water stain. This will not have the same feel as liming on hardwood, but can look great in a modern home.

#### TOOLS FOR THE JOB

You will need: a nail punch, ham-mer, sanding machine (hired), clean rags, fine sandpaper.

For hardwood floors: a wire brush. hessian or coarse rags, liming paste, white Shellac polish, acid-cat or water-based lacquer.

For softwood floors: prepared white water stain (Mylands or Liberon are good), water-based lacquer.

Before liming: The floorboards will need to be prepared and cleaned thoroughly, because any wax or grease left on the floor will make the paint separate and dirty marks will show through the lime. Nails should be hammered in with a nail punch so that they are just below the surface. You will need the sanding machine to remove all grease and old varnish.



Lola Gaji was fascinated by bleached driftwood and thought a limed floor would recreate that look

#### HARDWOOD FLOORS

I Use a clean wire brush to rake out the grain of the wood. The floorboards should be brushed in the direction of the grain. You may find this easier if you slightly dampen the floor with water. The aim is to remove lighter graining and leave harder grain intact. When you have finished, vacuum-clean thoroughly. 2 Use clean hessian or coarse rags to apply the lime paste. Rub the paste on in the direction of the grain and then cross-wise to ensure that the grains are completely filled with paste. Dry to a powdery finish. 3 When the lime paste has dried rub

the floor with fine sandpaper. The paste should remain in the grooves of the grain and you should be left with a smooth surface. 4 Then use a damp rag to clear up all

the remaining loose dust on the floor. 5 The floor can now be sealed. Apply a coat of white Shellac polish before varnishing as this will help prevent the lime powder being pulled away when you are brushing on the lacquer finish. Brush on two coats of acid-cat or water based Jacquer in a matt, silk or gloss finish. Avoid oilbased lacquers as these can yellow

#### SOFTWOOD FLOORS

the liming effect.

The overall effect you are trying to achieve is of a white-painted floor that has been worn in and bleached with age. Do not worry if your floorboards vary in colour - irregularities add to the charm.

I Paint the floorboards in the direction of the grain using a white prepared water stain. Work on small sections at a time and wipe off the excess stain with clean rags. It is important to do this before it dries or you will end up with a patchy effect. Leave the stain to dry for approximately four hours or according to manufacturers instructions.

2 If you have very yellow pine flooring you may need to add a second coat of stain which can be applied after the first coat has dried. 3 Once the stain has dried give the floor a very light hand sanding until you have a smooth finish. I Seal with two coats of water-based lacquer in a finish of your choice. A

matt or satin finish works well. Firms which stock products for liming floors and offer a mail-order service include Foxell and James, 57 Farringdon London ECIM 31B (0171-405 0152/2487), and Paint Magic (0171-354 9696).

### PROPERTY . -

A TWO-BEDROOM apartment built on the site of a medieval nunnery in Worcestershire is for sale with a guide price of £130,000. The Doverdale suite is the central section of Westwood House, near Droitwich Spa. The Grade 1 listed house, now divided into 13 apartments, was built as a hunting lodge in 1600 by Sir John Packington. named "lusty John" at the court of Queen Elizabeth because of his athletic achievements. Contact Knight Frank, 01905 723438.

PRICES of country houses and cottages will rise by up to 40 per cent by the year 2000, according to Strutt & Parker. James Laing, the head of the firm's rural division, predicts little activity until June this year. particularly after the general election is announced, but sees rises of S per cent in the last half of the year, and of 10 per cent in 1998 and 1999.

■ ALTHOUGH the housing market usually does pick up until well into the new year, Douglas & Gordon's office in Battersea, southwest London, reports that more than 100 new applicants registered there on January 3 alone.

THIS weekend sees the launch of the four remaining phase one properties at Try Homes's development at Princes Gate, Friern Barnet, London NII, situated in the grounds of the former Freiro Barnet hospital. Fifteen of the 69 Victorian-style two. three and four-bedroom houses have already been sold off plan. Prices from £149,950. Contact Try Homes, 0181-368 0008.

IF YOU think renting is expensive, how about a seven-bedroom house in Holland Villas Road, Holland Park, west London available at £6,800 a week? The luxurious detached family house has an outdoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, seven bathrooms, and off-street parking. Contact Hamptons International.

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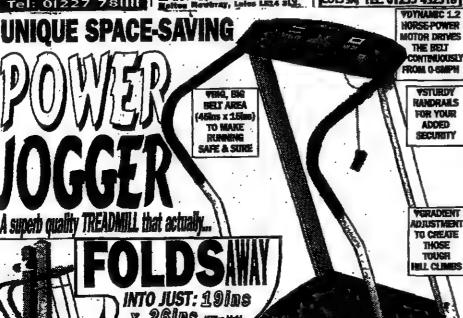
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# Trained and unlicensed to kill

The collapse of communism has led to an invasion of so-called attack dogs, which have become the most popular pets in Russia

n a bitterly cold winter's day, Moscow's open-air pet market greets its throng of visitors with the barking and howls of a thou-

sand angry dogs. Where children used to pet fluffy kittens or choose from a litter of cuddly black labradors, the city's oldest market has been turned into some futuristic nightmare. Smalltime Russian mobsters, identifiable from their uniform crew-cut hair and shell suits, stroll down the cramped stalls slapping each other on the back and sizing up the various dangerous dogs for sale, while choosing accessories like stud-ded collars and heavy chains to go with their new purchases.

"These are the perfect pets for today's Russia," says Afina, a middle-aged dog breeder, who lifts a blanket from a box to reveal two sleeping bull mastiff puppies. In their slumber the small but muscular creatures look deceptively harmless, an impression quickly dispelled by a glance at their mother, who has reared up on her hind legs and is barking savagely. restrained by four leads.

"Nowadays you need security. These dogs will guard your family and protect your property." Afina says, justifying the £800 asking price, before adding as an uncon-vincing afterthought that "they are also great with children".

Infatuation with dogs is nothing new in Russia. In pre-Revolution days hunting dogs and family pets were an obsession of the aristocracy. The passion survived under communism as well. Even though Soviet citizens lived in tiny, cramped flats and food was difficult to come by, Moscow's parks and courtyards were always filled with pedigree Afghan hounds and Great Danes. which were often fed better than

During the Soviet period dog breeding was strictly controlled and guard dogs were limited to only seven official breeds, including the giant central Asian and caucasian shenherds and the indigenous black terrier, said to be a favourite of Lavrenti Beria, one of Stalin's of attack dogs, which are now the most popular pets in the country, Fidel Castro's brother is

rumoured to have imported the first six pitbulls into Russia in 1990. Since then, for reasons of personal security and status, rottweilers. pitbulls, buil mastiffs and Staffordshires have become the latest accessory for New Russians. The newlymoneyed class think nothing of paying up to £1,500 for a pure-bred puppy, to add to their Mercedes and

dacha in the country.

Predictably, the new fad has caused problems in Moscow, where attacks by dogs have increased by

'Rottweilers, pitbulls and bull mastiffs go with the Mercedes and the country dacha'

more than 50 per cent this year. Sometimes it is the owners, ignorant of how to discipline their new pets. who are the victims, but mostly it is the ordinary citizens, for whom the city's parks have become an obstacle course of vicious canines.

While jogging through a park in the city recently. I was set upon by a doberman, which barked, snapped at my heels and lunged at me until his owner called him off, without apology. Others have been less lucky. One businessman, who had neglected to feed his pitbull, was mauled to death in November. Konstantin Kuznetsov, a dog

trainer, is not surprised by the casualty rate. He used to teach dogs to "sit" and "stay", but now owners want to teach their dogs new tricks. "Mostly owners want me to train their dogs to bite — or kill," he says.

The authorities have threatened to curb the uncontrolled sale of attack dogs, although the overstretched police force is too busy with crime to take on the task. One proposal put forward by the Moscow city council envisages restricting dangerous

dubs and forcing all owners to undergo a dog training course. However, so far the attempts have

led nowhere and a huge unregu-lated cottage industry of breeders has sprung up across the country. The failure of the law to deal with the problem was highlighted last year in the Volga town of Samara when a man was fined 20,000 roubles (E2) by a court after his rottweiler killed a drunken assailant by biting him through the neck.

Certainly, few politicians would want to risk incurring the anger of dog lovers by advocating a crack-down. The popular appeal of man's best friend was exploited by several candidates during last summer's presidential election race. General Aleksandr Lebed, the former sec urity chief, made it known that his free time is spent taking Cheswick, his English sheepdog, for walks. Similarly Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader, dotes on Daisy, his poodle, and Grigori Yaviinsky, the main liberal leader, is passionate about his alsatian.

The self-made millionaire Vladimir Bryntsalov, a classic New Russian, revealed that he was trendier than his opponents. Pride of place among his pets are a rottweiler and two caucasian shepherds, the fiercest Russian breeds.

my talk of restrictions is greeted as fanciful by Marguerita, a young Rus-Lsian businesswoman who predicts that the phenomenon of attack dogs is just beginning in Russia. She is chairman of Moscow's Pitbull Association and is the proud owner of Red Alert, a fearcome-looking pitbull, who is not only the family pet but also an important source of income. The dog is a champion fighter, unbeaten in three contests, when the stakes often run as high as £6,500. "I organise fights a few times a

year, when people fly in from around the country to participate." says the breeder, who insists that fighting dogs are trained never to anack human beings. "If it is done properly, it is a good sport. I think it will catch on in Russia.



RICHARD BEESTON Dogs on sale at a Moscow street market. Russians are happy to pay up to £1,500 for fashionable breeds

### A VET WRITES

My King Charles span-iel, Holly, has an eye problem. I bathe her eyes every day but there is always a catarrh-like mucus in them and now there is a bluish film over the cycball.

Holly has conjunctivitis A and the infection has extended on to the cornea, the surface of the eyeball. This could lead to ulcers, which are acutely painful, or to scarring, which can cause blindness. Take Holly to your vet as soon as you can. Some damage will have been done but, with proper treatment, there is a good chance that she will end up with pain-free eyes and efficient, if not perfect, sight.

We have a pair of guin-ea pigs. The male is about three months old and the female, ten weeks. When will they be old enough to breed? What is the gestation period and should we separate them before the young are born?

A They are old enough now and baby guinea pigs may already be on the way. Gestation varies depending on the litter size: about 68 days for triplets or quads (the average number) but, if there is only one or two, they may not be born for a day or so longer. Baby guinea pigs are born fully furred, eyes open, active and feeding on solid food within a couple of days. They feed from their mother for three to four weeks. If their father is excitable it would be better to separate him from them - he will not harm them but may trample on them.

Ben, our five-year-old neutered cat, started straining and was in agony. We thought he was constipated but the vet found he could not pass urine. He was given an anaesthetic and the blockage was cleared. My vet says crystals from the urine cause such blockages and it could happen again. A friend says that dry cal-food is the cause. Ben has always had tinned food. Is there anything I can do to prevent a recurrence?

A Feline urolithiasis syndrome (FUS), the name of this condition, affected cats long before dry cat-food was available. Two things could help. Cats take most of their fluid as part of their food (raw meat and canned foods contain up to 75 per cent water). The more Ben drinks, the less the risk of further crystal formation. Add gravy or meat nice to his drinking water and, if you have boiled lish, save that water for him.

It is not wise to give dry food (it only contains 10 per cent water) to cats that have had bladder trouble, because this may lead them to produce concentrated urine. This is not the same thing as saying dry food causes FUS.

Crystals do not form so readily in acid urine. You could ask your vet if he or she advises tablets to make sure Ben's urine always turns litmus paper red.

JAMES ALLCOCK Readers should write to The Times Vet, Weekend. The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. Advice is offered without

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se 'Interiors', page 79 of

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dung, his

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HEIDI is a four-year-old brown labrador cross who vaccinated. She is a loyal dog and would suit a retired couple with no other pets who could devote time to

Chez is a 14-month-old tricolour collie and labrador cross who is very energetic and would suit an active family who are used to dogs as he needs some training. Contact National Canine Defence League Rescue Centre, Bridgend, Tondu Road, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF31 4LH (01656 652771).



Heidi (left) is very loyal whereas Chez is energetic

## Feeling ill? The eyes have it

## ALTERNATIVELY SPEAKING

said as shown by

the spots of yellow

and orange dis-

coloration. That

means I would be

suscentible to rheu-

matic arthritic ul-

cerative and skin

complaints (I

grandmother's

crippling arthritis).
The white and

yellow clouds in

your eyes show a shiggish

lymph system which is strug-

gling to get rid of toxins," he

So that's what may be behind my bad skin. Rings

round my eye rims indicated

stress (no surprises there)

while he also spotted a slightly

spastic colon. Solution: relax-

But it was his appendix spot

that convinced me. A dark

mark in my eye was exactly

the spot in the lower abdomen

where my appendix had once

Iridology

ation techniques.

dam Jackson has a perfect peachy com-plexion. Yet for years he suffered from psoriasis which left him with red scaly blotches that itched as if insects were crawling under

"I remember endless coaltar baths and repeated applications of ointments and pastes, and being wrapped up daily in cling film like a halfpiece of cucumber," he says. "My skin did get better, but it never fully cleared."

His determination to heal himself led him to alternative medicine and an acupunc turist who used iridology. The psoriasis vanished. Mr Jackson was so impressed that he spent a year training with the then British School of Iridology and has been an iridologist for the past decade.

I met him at his clinic in Golders Green, northwest London. He did not take down the usual medical and lifestyle details, as other therapists have. All he wanted to know was whether I wore contact lenses (they must be removed) or suffered epilepsy (treatment is ill-advised as it involves bright lights which could trigger a fit). He spent three minutes using a special video camera called an "iroscope" to photograph the irises and to project the image onto a large screen for analysis.

Up flashed my eyes, enlarged so they all but filled the television screen. I was surprised by the number of colours and textures: I'd always thought of myself as brown-eyed, full-stop. The iris is believed to be a window to your health because it responds to The left iris is believed to register

changes in the left side of the body. while the right shows those in the right. Colour is thought to show your constitutional RACHEL KELLY leanings: :so the

brown-eyed for example, tend to be poor metabolisers of fats: the blue-eyed tend to develop acid conditions such as arthritis: while those with mixed irises tend to suffer poor digestions. The fibres of the iris are

claimed to reveal the condition of the organs and tissues throughout the body. There are only three basic iris colours: blue, brown and green. Any other colour such as orange or yellow is caused by toxins. My system was overloaded with acid, Mr Jackson

been. I was stunned when he

examination of the iris to show an individual's health.

What it is: Close

E Advantages: A way of diagnosing what is wrong which is non-invasive. It can detect tissue change before it THE COMMON TO Disadvantages: It does not claim to treat the Cost: £50 for the initial session, E30 for a follow up after three months, E15 for a

said I must have had it out when I was II.

Eye-gazing supposedly began with Hippocrates. By the 17th century, eye analysis was an established diagnostic method across Europe. But iridology proper began in the 19th century when the Hungarian doctor Ignatz von Peczely noticed a black mark in an owl's eye which had broken its leg. He found the same mark in a patient with the same complaint. '

Mr Jackson convinces by his modest claims for his trade. 'Iridology is simply an extension of conventional forms of diagnosis through the eye.

Post-diagnosis, Mr Jackson calls on his herbal, massage and nutritional skills to advise treatment. He outlined a "personal preventative health-care programme" for an extra £15. which suggests diet, breathing exercises to reduce stress and speed up lymph flow and nutritional advice. I should avoid tomatoes, switch to apple cider rather than white wine vinegar, and reduce the amount of meat I eat. I pondered quite how many times a week I ate a vinegary tomato salad. Two weeks and far less meat later, whisper it quietly, but I feel fantastic.

The guild of Naturopathic iridologists, 15 Grosvenor Lodge 94 Grosvenor Road, London SWIV 3LF.



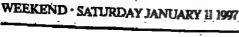
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● Tridelogy, by Adam Jackson is published by Vermilion, £8.99, ● Adam Jackson, c/o of International Association of

Clinical Iridologists, 853 Finchley Road, London NW11 (0181-458 7781]. The association can put you in touch with an iridologist in your area. -





# Tired hand that rocks the cradle

ou can tell J.M. Barrie was not a father. There he was. writing this play for and about children, and he had three of them, Wendy, Michael and John, put to bed, not by their mater or pater (this being an upper-middle-class household), nor an applechecked nanny, but by a dog. Ridiculous. Once you believe that. you'll believe a boy can fly.

Every parent, on the other hand, knows that getting a small child to sleep is an enterprise requiring patience and fortitude. Put themdown too early and they yell the house down. Leave it too late and they yell the house down because they're over-tired. Like Goldilocks and the porridge scenario, it has to be done just right.

I am, at present, training our two-year-old, Grace, to go to sleep. I have been doing so for some time

- about two years, in fact. It's not that she's anti-sleep per se, just

should be rurned into an event, like Christmas or birthdays. Frequently, when I stumble through the door after a hard day's wage slaving, she, all pyjama ed up, will greet me with a kiss and the welcome words: "Hiyo, Daddy. Me tard. Wunngo hed." Her mother will not demur. "She didn't have a nap so she's been hell all afternoon," my wife will say, her voice glowing with love. So good old Daddy takes over.

Does she have her milk? Does she have her comfort blankets? Yes --two. One used to be a spare, but now she seems to have decided that it's such a rough old world two are the basic minimum. Does she have her plastic Donald Duck

PERSONAL LIFE

figure she got out of a cereal box and prefers to her other, more expensive, toys? OK, ler's go.

While Grace sleeps in her own bed, she goes to sleep on ours, unless she's so exhausted that she could fall asleep anywhere (including, on one notorious occasion, the bath). This is fine: ours is a double bed, and hers is pathetically small and narrow. Hardly enough room for her, let alone me.

Grace, you see, likes to be cuddled to sleep on our bed. She hair stroked. But there again, who doesn't? So I couldle and pat and stroke, and she drinks her milk, occasionally taking the bottle out of her mouth to check how much

tal, that. We didn't use to, and it may or may

not be coincidental that, since we started doing so, she has taken longer to nod off. But on the other hand, have you any idea how boring it is, just patting and stroking and making silly shhhh sounds, supposedly guaranteed to have even the most resilient toddler spark out in seconds?

Anyway, ever since she worked out which button turned the TV on, there's been no stopping her. Any set she sees has to be switched on. or she throws a wobbly. At any rate, that's the excuse I have for leaving it on. By this means I have become a fan of EastEnders. having never previously watched it

Being a child of the Sixties, I am

with my little girl cradled in my left arm, and I send out relaxation waves. I try to convince her that I. too, am falling asleep. My breathing slows and deepens and I might add a little snore for dramatic effect. Frequently, my performance is so good that the next thing I know my wife is shaking me awake. I tell her I wasn't asleep,

think she believes me. Grace's breathing slows and deepens as well. The hand clutching my finger relaxes. She hands me her bottle and makes little snuffling noises of contentment. All the signs are right. Five more minutes of this and I can go downstairs and bask in the congratulations of my wife, a fine voman but one sadly bereft of the subtleties that make for an inter

just resting my eyes, but I don't

national-class child get-to-sleeper The next stage sounds simple enough. Remove sleeping child from crook of arm. Waggle arm until pins and needles disappear. Get off hed. Lift child up. Carry to own room. Lay down on own bed. Cover with comfort blankets and duvet. But at any time in the procedure the child can reveal the awful truth - she's been shamming. "Awake," she will say, and prove it by jumping up and down

and giggling.
That's when relaxation techniques and sleep vibes go right out the window. "Go to sleep," I shout, quietly. She knows enough has been enough. She throws herself on to the pillow and shuts her eyes so tight she almost gives herself a headache. She makes the snoring noises she picked up off her dad. In time, she even believes it herself, and goes to sleep for real. Finished. Done and dusted. And it only took

CHRIS CAMPLING

# You can't smack me. I don't live here

Adults should not be made to feel guilty for chastising other

people's badly-behaved children

The tone

adopted

by these

parents

apologetic

in the days that kens back to. Doors were never locked and women could walk out at night. Society seemed to work better. Yet if a neighbour caught a child stealing from his orchard he was just as likely to cuff the miscreant as drag him back to the family home for chastisement Policemen did it too - and

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ELY SPEAKING

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caretakers and park-keepers. Corporal punishment from strangers was one of the daily hazards for a young lad off on

course some families still believe in smacks within the family — and we are one of them.

Our six-year-old son John is a complete handful at times and he usually gets a red card warning before being smacked on the hand but even we found it difficult to accept someone else administering the blow.

At my daughter's school there is a mother who rarely mixes with the other parents and never attends social events. For a long time I wondered if this woman thought herself above the common herd but one day Miranda told me the dreadful secret of Megan's mother. This other girl pushed Megan over in the playground and Megan's mum smacked her." Now it seems that no one wants their daughter going to play at Megan's house and encountering the risk of physi-

cal violence. Some parents are more pro-

tective still. A friend of mine, a surgeon whom I've often heard threatening his own ments, told me that he considers other people chastising or rebuking his offspring "way out of line".

in recent years, as Britain has lost its sense of community, so discipline seems to have become the exclusive province of parents. If John or Miranda are ever involved in trouble at

the houses of other children I've noticed that we get ก็<u>ปรี and anxious</u> feedback from the hosts. "I told him again he'd have to go and play in when he did hit Sam I'm airaid I did take him next door until he noomised he wouldn't do it any more."

Sometimes the tone adopted by these poor parents verges on the apologetic. They're very sorry for having been driven to reproach our offspring, and are getting in their own version of events straight away, just in case we subsequently hear an exaggerated account of physical or emotional abuse from our children ("Joss shouted at us all the time we were there"). The problem today is that all too often society will assume that Joss is the transgressor simply because she was raising her voice at some-body else's children.

For many people I know, a rebuke to their children feels like an attack on the family unit, something to be repelled at all costs. I know a woman who told a boy off for persistently letting his dog stray into her garden and defaecate. Unfortunately the boy's father



Adrian and Katharine Mourby at home in Cardiff with their children John and Miranda. "All children are naughty sometimes. It's no big deal if someone else points this out"

was in earshot and told her to "lay off my boy". When parents believe their job is to defend their children - right or wrong — rather than actu-ally make them good members of society I do feel the time has come for someone to say: "All children are naughty sometimes. It's no big deal if

someone else points this out." The problem is these days we are all of us scared of

the few people I know who will point out to a teenage boy that he has just dropped his fish and thip paper in the street. Most of us want to see an end to litter but we don't feel we should step in and rebuke the child who causes it. That is the responsibility of his parents and if they fail in that responsibility that is something the rest of us just have to bear. A disciplining other people's sensible caring society is sure-

children. My mother is one of ly one where we are all in loco parentis for young children, if

their parents aren't on hand. A few years ago we were staying in a National Trust holiday cottage where there were lots of pheasants wandering the grounds. Little John had taken great delight in chasing these birds hither and thither, because pheasants are slow on the ground and reluchalf-hearted tone of parents who are on holiday and who would dearly like a rest from responsibility, but of course he took no notice.

Then one day a stranger in a Land Rover pulled up, opened the door and politely but firmly told John to stop molesting the birds. I wasn't there to witness this event but I gather that John completely collapsed rushed back to our cottage

but the man was perfectly justified. Had I been there at the time I would have wanted him to address his rebuke via me, as the parent. But given that I wasn't, it was right that something was said. Right for the birds who were panicking. right for drivers in the car park who didn't want frenzied pheasants flying out in front of them and right for John who suddenly realised that other people do care about how he behaves in public. Even if most of the time they don't say anything. I'm clear in my own mind that I would never license someone to hit, or even cuff, my children. We have a primitive, healthy, aversion to our offspring being struck by

where he buried his face in the

sofa. We were all sorry for him

when our children misbehave. Some things were better in my father's day and one of them was the way in which everyone in the community had a stake in each other's orderly behaviour. Small rebukes to children were a daily occurrence. All too often these days we keep our heads down and only speak out if the behaviour of some child is more than we can bear. The result is that we erupt in anger - like my friend with the dog - and that the aggrieved purent resents our intervention. What we need is more people in Land Rovers pulling up to put the pheasant's point of view.

strangers but even strangers must be entitled to speak out

ADRIAN MOURBY

## Ruth Gledhill finds evidence of strong religious belief and dedication in a presbytery dating from Tudor times Forget astrology, find your star and follow it



ON THE church noticeboard, a faith-ful parishioner had posted a cartoon of the confessional. The drawing depicted a hirsute priest and penitent, who was saying: "Father, I have these awful

thoughts. I want to grow a beard." Father Charles Jeffries, rosycheeked and ebullient, was clearly the subject. He could also have stepped out of the Tudor period, the era when his house was built, making it the oldest continually occupied presbytery in England. Aside from his carelessly discarded jokes, his twinkly eyes and jovial disposition, what marked him out was the vigour and magnificence of his immaculately groomed white

and grey beard. In the early Middle Ages, priests in some areas were forbidden by local canon law to grow beards. Later the fashion reversed, and by the Counter Reformation the trend was for bishops and priests to flourish their extremely long, flowing white facial hair. Today priests can sport beards or not, as they wish, although in some circumstances a beard can still seem unusual enough to send a kind of spiritual frisson down the spine.



Father Charles Jeffries at the Church of Our Lady of Consolation

plain or whitewashed and adorned solely by the Stations of the Cross, is one of the best known and most popular in the Roman Catholic Church's Arundel and Brighton diocese. Hilaire Belloc is buried there, and the shrine of Our Lady of Consolation attracts regular pil-

The church was especially full for the reception of a young woman, a former Anglican, into the Catholic community. Children ran around, The Gothic-style church, its walls laughed and giggled at the back or

ran to the front to play with teddy bears and other Christmas presents in a side chapel as we heard readings from Isaiah, Ephesians and St Matthew's Gospel.

As it was the season of Epiphany, our priest preached on the story of the three wise men. "We all have our star to follow." he said, "although if you were to read what the new Catholic catechism has to say about astrology. I wonder how it is that we accept that these men were guided by a star." The catechism seemed to

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humorous. \*\*\*\* MUSIC: Alleluia chorus from The essiah, plus chember-music style accompaniment to hymns. \*\*\* LITURGY: Eucharist from the Roman SPIRITUAL HIGH

Consoling. \*\*\* AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Coffee, wine and tour of priest's house, \*\*\*

write the whole of astrology off as rubbish, he said, going on to agree that it could, at times, be just that. When I read my horoscope while waiting in the queue at the barber, it always mentions great financial opportunities or my love life. And this to a priest. Really, it is bunkum.

But we all do have a star to follow." That lesson became clear when I was later taken on a tour of the timbered presbytery, a dimly lit maze of corridors, low ceilings and curving stairways. As we wound our way up to the chapel in the rafters, we passed a brick-lined hole, now lit with a spyhole for visitors to see where priests hid during the days of suppression and persecution, when the penalty for being a priest was

That this church exists at all was thanks to the Caryll family, supporters of the old religion, who sheltered priests disguised as servants. The secret chapel was built, complete with hiding holes, after the Gunpowder Plot, and according to legend people have been healed there. No records have been kept but a pair of 17th-century crutches testify to the story of one disabled labourer who was raised to the chapel six times by stepladder, and on the seventh time discarded his crutches and walked away, fully fit.

The chapel also contains the relics of the Venerable Francis Bell who gave himself up to save three young priests and was beheaded, hung, drawn and quartered at Tyburn in 1643. There is also a picture of this remarkable Catholic martyr that looks as if it could be a photograph raken yesterday. This was a man who certainly followed his star to its ultimate conclusion.

• The Church of Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis, Park Lane West Grinstead, West Sussex RH13 8LT

CHRISTMAS JUMBO CROSSWORD

The winner of the Christmas Jumbo Crossword, who receives a methuselah of Moët & Chandon champagne and £100, is P. Hellawell of Leeds.

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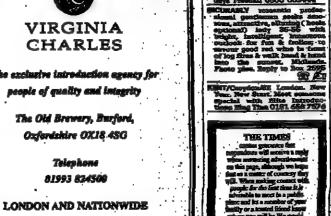
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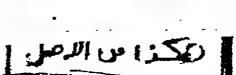
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**Budapest:** one of the Danube's great cities Hungary : 19

# travel

Haggling through the Mekong markets Vietnam - 20



# Oh brother, it's so quiet in Majorca

Four pages on Spain open

with Tony

Kelly enjoying monastic peace in the hills



church terrace, watching the sun disappear behind the mountains. All could hear was birdsong, and palm trees whistling in the reeze. The views stretched for miles on one side of the small villages dotted here and there and surrounded by patchwork fields. Somewhere in the distance I heard the tinkling of sheep bells. I could have been anywhere in one of the undiscovered regions of southern Europe. But I was not I was in Majorca.

There are many reasons not to stay in Majorca's hilitop sanctuaries. You will not get a hot bath every night. You will towels and chocolates on your pillow, forget it. But if I have not yet managed to put you off, think of the rewards. Peace and solitude in some of Majorca's most beautiful places. Views to die for. A strange sense of history and of the presence of God. Not what you spect from Majorca at all.

staying in a Palma hotel and couple. Nick and Jill Carter. A Stay in Mallorcan Monasteries - he wrote the words, she drew the pictures - describes their journey of discovery around seven former hermitages. The monks have left but the monasteries remain, offer-

ing simple accommodation. Ten miles from Palma airport, Puig de Randa rises out of the central plain. The summit of this mountain is where it all began, when the 13thcentury mystic Ramon Llull established Majorca's first hermitage to atone for a life of excess. His conversion from a devotion to wine and women came when he chased a married woman through Palma's streets, only for her to pull up her blouse to reveal diseaseridden breasts. Chastened, he retired to Puig de Randa to write scholarly texts, study languages and then become a missionary in Tunisia. There were rooms available

WHY US?

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A Alberta and a State of the St

gave it up for a more spiritual here, but I decided to move on life; now he sells rosaries to to the Ermita de Bonany, overlooking the village of Pepilgrims and produces leaflets tra. Bonany means "good year"; the name derives from advertising Buddhist meditation. The cell was white, with a 1609, when villagers made a pligrimage to the chapel to heavy door, a vaulted ceiling and a picture of the Virgin on pray for rain and their prayers the wall. There was a washbasin in the corridor and a were answered in abundance. cold shower, which I declined. was here that another famous Majorcan missionary.

The pony-tailed caretaker

led me to my "cell" in the

former monks' quarters. He

used to be a policeman but

MAJORCA FACT FILE

hat night I was the only visitor. I crept Junipero Serra, preached his last sermon before setting out into the chapel to light for Mexico and California, a candle, then went to where he was to found the missions which grew into San bed at 9pm, slept for ten hours, Diego and San Francisco. His and woke with sunlight flooding through the shutters. Later bust is in the Capitol in Washington, where he is I went into Petra. honoured as the "founder of

The street leading to Serra's house is adorned with ceramic paintings depicting his vari-ous missions. The house has been preserved, and the garden brims with cactus, palm

and bamboo. Next door is a Serra museum; the caretaker lives in the next street and will let you in for a donation.

Pollensa, 20 miles north of Petra, is dominated by its Calvary hill, a flight of 365 stone steps lined with cypress trees. Puig de Maria ("Mary's mountain") overlooks the town; the monastery on its summit can be seen for miles around. The narrow road to the peak is all terrifying angles and impossible bends. I settled for an hour's walk to the top, from where the 365 steps I had climbed earlier suddenly seemed very small. My reward was a hot shower, for which I paid 300 pesetas (£1.60). The caretaker rustled up an omelette and a glass of house red, and by the time I returned to my cell the lights vere sparkling over the bay of

Alcudia below. Lluc, a short drive away, is Majorca's centre of pilgrimage. It was founded in the 13th century when an Arab shepherd boy, newly converted to Christianity, discovered a statue of the Virgin in the rock. Three times it was placed in the local church, but each time it returned to its hiding place. whereupon the villagers recognised a divine message and built a chapel to house it.

owadays La More neta (The Little Dark One") is encrusted with iewels and acts as a magnet for both pilgrims and coach parties. The monastery has become more like a cheap hotel, popular with mountain walkers a single room with bath costs about EIO. "It's like staying at the Ritz," Nick Carter warned me, but I believe that the Ritz makes your bed for you. Certainly, though, Lluc is the most comfortable of the monasteries in which to stay.

At 11.15 each morning, bluecassocked choirboys perform for tourists: they sing again at dusk, when the tourists have gone. The first occasion is crowded and artificial, the second is peaceful and meaningful. At sunrise the next morning I climbed the Way of the Rosary and looked down on the sand-coloured buildings, now eerily quiet and

enveloped in a golden glow. I saved the remotest setting for last. To reach the Castell d'Alaró you have to drive for three miles up a pot-holed

track, park at Es Verger restaurant (try the roast lamb, cooked in a wood-burning oven), and climb for another hour up a steep, zigzagging path. When you reach the castle ruins you understand how the Moors managed to hold out here for 60 years after

the Christian conquest. Fur-

ther up still, through the trees. is the tiny sanctuary of Nostra Senyora del Refugio. Incredibly, a young couple live here, running a hostel and restaurant (they even take Visa) and bringing supplies up by mule.

There was no shower, not even a cold one, the lavatory had no seat, the bedroom was

spartan and even with four blankets folded double I could not keep out the chill. But oh. the views: the Mediterranean on three sides, the entire Majorcan plain, the monasteries at Randa and Petra, the mountains where pine trees grow out of red rock. In the distance was Palma, its cathe-

dral and castle visible by day. its lights sparkling at night. I could just make out the resorts around Palma Bay, by now throbbing with nightlife. Yet here i was, alone on the mountain with my own private view. Twelve miles apart. two sides of Majorca, I knew which one I preferred.

THE ITINERARY

DAY I London (Heathrow)-Berlin Morning

flight with Lufthuren, Drive to Paydom for an

afternion visit to see the menon palaces of Sans Souri and the Neues Palais, Late afternoon transfer

to the MS konigateln for early exening sailing.

DAY 2 Brandenburg - Magdeburg Cruise along

day exercision to mediesal l'angermunde, one of the best examples of Central European medieval architecture. Most mernight in Magdeburg.

DAY 3 Magdeburg Wittenberg Morning on the

river. Meer lunch we will reach Dessay famous for

be an opportunity to take a gondola ride through

of the land-caped garden and the various palaces.

on loss before dinner. Mour overnight in Elster.

DAY 4 Elster-Merschwitz In the mid-morning

arrive at Torgan, lamous for its huge fortified easile which stands on the banks of the Filie, it was also the

meeting point of Allied and Societ forces in May 1915

DAY 5 Merschwitz-Dresden Marning call at

Meissen. Visit the porcelain factors and the 5t Moritzhurg Castle, Sail on to Dre-den arrising

M Moritzburg Castle, Sail on to Pre-den arrising in time for lunch. Altermoon visit to Zwinger Palace, the most important barrique building in Germany housing collections of oriental and early Messen porcelain. Moor overnight and watch the

am set mer Dresden's unique baroque skyline.

DAY 6 Dresden - Zernosseky The highlight of

today will be the visit to konigstein Castle, perched high above the river this huge forcess dates back

nore than 750 years. Today we shall pass some of

the loseliest scenery on the route, entering Boltemia

alternoon of exploration in a city which survived

World War II unscuthed, Ser Prague Castle, former

mia and the Gothic cathedral of St Vitue.

imperial stronghold and residence of the Kings

Rejoin the second at Prague-Troja and sail into the rity during our farewell dinner on board.

DAY 8 Prague-London (Heathrow) Disembark after breakfast and drive to the Old Town, There

will be free time to explore the old quarter,

the former Jewish ghetto and New Youn before

DAY 7 Zerooseky-Prague Morning on the



The Ermita de Bonany, near the village of Petra in Majorca. Bonany means "good year": the name derives from 1609, when villagers made a pilgrimage to pray for rain and their prayers were answered

### British Midland (0345 554554) has daily flights from Heathrow to Palma. Prices until February 17 are stay must include a Saturday night).

Car hire all the leading firms have offices at Palma airport but local compani offer competitive prices. A lbiza for five days. ing insurance and a full tank of petroi, costs £112 through Hasso Rent A Car in Can Pastilla (00 34 7126 1005). Another good local firm is Serra (00 34 7126 9411). Always check that the car hire price includes full insurance and VAT.

Monastery accommodation: Prices range from 900 pesetas (£4.70) at Alaro to 2,250 pesetas (£11.80) at Liuc. It is best to book ahead in summer and at weekends. Telephone numbers (from UK, preface them with 00 34 70: Ermita de Bonany, Petra, 561101: Santuari del Puig de Maria, Pollenca, 530235; Monestir de Lluc, 517025; Santuari del Refugio, Alaro. 510480. You can also stay at Puig de Randa (660994) and Salvador near Felanitx (980)6564 All except Petra serve

■ When to go: the summer can become almost unbearably hot and overcrowded in Majorca: however, in the winter



Old pilgrims' quarters in Lluc, with stables beneath

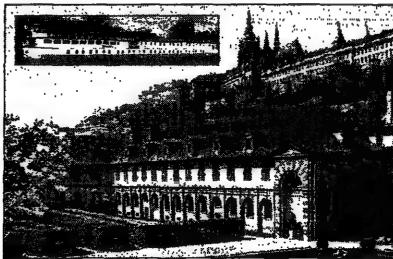
extremely cold. The best months to go are March to June

Reading: A Stay in Mallorcan Monasteries (£3.50) is available from: Nick Carter, 81 Plains of Waterloo, Ramsgate, Kent CTI 8JE.

(0171-229 5260) also recommends: Eniovine Majorca by Pamela Leggs £15.99, ISBN 0 906 63521 7); Not Part of the Package by £5.09. ISBN 0 330 33541 32 Mallorea and Menorca by Phil Lee (Rough Guides, £8,99, ISBN 1858 28165 2).

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river journey we will sail from the royal city of Potsdam, on the outskirts of Berlin, through the enchanting countryside of Saxony and Bohemia to Prague. Our vessel the 'MS Konigstein' is the only vessel currently able to navigate this route which allows us to sail into the heart of Prague. Her specially designed ballast tank system allows the vessel to be lowered as she approaches low bridges and the water-jet power, rather than the usual propeller equipment, permits her to sail in shallow water.

The highlights of the voyage will be medieval Tangermunde, Luther's bome town of Wittenberg, historic and culturally rich Dresden, the passage through the Elbsandstein mountains and of course the incomparable beauty of Prague.

#### THE MS KONIGSTEIN

Built in 1492 and specifically designed for this route, the Konigstein is a first class river vessel accommodating up to 62 passengers. All cabins on both decks have a large picture window, are well designed, comfortably furnished and have a private shower and toilet.

The public areas are well furnished, right and welcoming offering a single sitting dining room, lounge and bar area. There is a large sun and observation deck. The food is delicious and because the galley is catering for relatively small numbers most special dictary requirements can be met, if notified in advance.

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Spain: History and high living in the hills of Andalusia; plus Catalonia and its unorthodox cuisine and



Ronda, set in an amphitheatre of hills, is a white, flower-filled Moorish city of palaces and churches in cobbled streets. In the Spanish Civil War, 502 prisoners of the republicans were thrown 300ft to their deaths in the town gorge

A welcome in Ronda valley

fter an hour of seeing right off the terrifying two-lane constal motorway from Malaga and headed into the mountains. Within minutes our spirits

empty of habitation apart from an occasional farmhouse with distant views of the sierras. Seemingly miles away at the top of the nearest mountain we could see a speck of white, which revealed itself slowly as we drove ever upwards through hairpin bends

It was in this small mountain community, 1,500ft up on the edge of the Sierra Bermeja and dominated by a Moorish castle that I spent one of the most idyllic weeks of my life last summer.

We stayed at Las Pilas, a Spanish aristocrat's villa with its own helipad, set on a sloping hill away from the oleander, bougainvillea and geraniums. The villa could sleep nine people in five bed-

rooms, including a suite with sitting room and bathroom. On the top level there was a huge shaded terrace for eating and reading. Another terrace below led from the studio — a

the west. On the far horizon at

night, demonstrating that

life on the planet, were the

twinkling lights of Algeciras

on the coast and, shimmering

perfect retreat for the teenagers of the party - which had its own sitting room, bedrooms and bathroom, to a swimming pool and a covered pergola with a fridge. The most breathtaking feature of Las Pilas, however, was the view. All around us towered the Serrania de Ronda. mountains. Ahead, across the vast valley of the river Guadiaro, all we could see, ust, was the seaside town of Estepona to the east and the Rock of Gibraltar 30 miles to

distantly and tantalisingly bemore reading or swimming. yond, the lights of Morocco. and it was surprising how quickly it was time for the More romantic, the 13th-century castle of Gaucin was vodka and tonic before setting out for our evening meal.

Our Andalusian holiday could not have been more ideal for what I wanted, which was a week of flopping out. As we roused ourselves in the mornings the mist was lifting off the mountains and there was the tinkling sound of the donkeys' bells as they trudged to work. We breaklasted on the terrace in the sunshine and then swam or read or shopped in Gaucin for our al fresco lunches made from fresh fish. meat, fruit and vegetables, accompanied by £2-£3 bottles of wine. After that a siesta,

Street, London SW3 2PR

(0171-581 0851), has several

n retrospect, we probably overreacted to our first

lesson. This was at the hands of the hire-car company part-

timer, whose offer to drive the

first leg of our journey from

Barcelona airoort to Gerona

we had gladly accepted. We were terrified - the locals

drive fast and close, and

overtake on reliex. But most of

them, we were later relieved to

discover, make allowances for

And you do need four

wheels in Catalonia. So vast and varied is the region,

embracing the Costa Brava

and all manner of natural.

cultural and historical trea-

sures, that car hire charges are

repaid a hundredfold in satis-

faction gained. Bicycles can be

rented, but you need legs land

Catalonia has a mild di-

mate — we travelled in early

June, unseasonally hot in the 80Fs and low 90Fs - and

offers clean beaches and scenic

grandeur (Costa Brava trans-

lates more realistically as "rugged coast" than "brave

coast?). And being only a 12-

hour drive from Calais or a

two-hour hop from Gatwick,

no wonder Catajonia has at-

tracted generations of British

A few decades ago they

could stay in comfort for a

week for about 150 pesetas.

then equivalent to a local

man's monthly wage. But

since inflation and then reces-

sion began to bite, our contribution to the Catalan coffers

has declined. Many formerly

British-owned villas now be-

long to seasonal occupants

MUNDI COLOR

nerves) of steel.

bumbling foreign visitors.

Catalan

Gaucin, a viliage of narrow, huddled streets and whitewashed houses with balconies dripping with geraniums, is a superb base for exploring Andalucia. Although its population is, at most, 2,000, the village has a daily fish market. a working baker, several small supermarkets, a special market on Saturdays, two decent restaurants and several tapas bars offering ample macks of

chokes and many other Span-

The Mediterranean beaches of Sotogrande and Estepona are only 40 minutes away, Tarifa on the Atlantic coast, the self-styled windsurfing capital of Europe, is easily reached, and Jerez, Seville, Granada and Gibraltar are less than four hours away by car. Golf, riding, walking, wind-surfing, bird-watching are all on offer.

We chose to go to Ronda for our day out, an hour's drive on roads winding through spectacular scenery and passing by several of Spain's legend-ary small white villages — the pueblos blancos: - perched

perilously on the mountain-sides. Seen from the distance, of the Civil War. There are also plenty of sights to savour, most notably the sumptious Ronda looked like a city of ugly tower blocks. Once with-13th-century church of Santa Maria la Mayor and its in the walls, however, Ronda, set in an amphitheatre of hills, is utterly enchanting — a white, flower-filled Moorish breathtaking Baroque high altar: Santa Naria was origicity of palaces and churches in nally the principal mosque of narrow, cobbled streets, its Ronda. It was convented into a

Ronda is a city with a turmituous history. Its Tajo the vertiginous gorge of the river Guadelvin, was where a mob from Malaga threw 512 prisoners of the republicans over the cliff into the river

pedestrian area busy with

shoppers and dotted with out-

door cafes and always with

As a dedicated Francophile, Spain for me last summer was an experiment - would i enjoy any other European country other than France? that became a revelation, especially in how easy it was to escape the over-built ugliness and the crowds of the coast, the main factor that had

adors' museum.

church by Ferdinand the Cath-

olic but still has the original

tury Plaza de Toros, its second

oldest builting the Mecos of builtighting and once the play-

ground of El Cordobes Any

isitor new to the passion for

killing bulls will be surprised

by the size and elegance of the arena. They can learn still

more from its fascinating mat-

et another insight into the passions of Spain is offered by the splendid 18th cen-

minumet as file tower.

space and emptiness that is rare in summer France.

The real revelation was how much cheaper it was to shop and cat out in Spain compared with France (although France may fare better this year now that the exchange rate i heading towards Fr9 to the £1). every night - on two petrol station (where food is served) and then to Gaucin station (at El Colmenar several miles away across the hills) and dined on salads and fish fresh from the sea off Algericas for £5 a head, including plenty of wine. Food and drink was equally cheep in

shops and supermarkets. A holiday only for the well-off Supprisingly not. Seven of us lived like millionaires for £335 each, including flights, for the week. Nine could stay at-Las Pilas this summer for E170 each, plus a flight from £143, plus sharing the hire of a car, and still more cheaply in

May and June. Although I love France, liter the experience of Gaucin last summer I shall certainly return to Spain.

BRIAN MACARTHUR The author was a guest of

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mostly from Spain itself. Our

villa, a few minutes' vertigi-

nous drive from the coast

between the hilltop towns of

Palafrugell and Begur, near

Pals, was in an area consid-

ered upmarket and particular-

European Union politicians.

popular with Spanish and

Opera singers, for some

reason, have also gravitated

there: José Carreras stays

regularly in the seaside village

Caballé in nearby Aigua

Blava. Other migrant celebri-

ties are too numerous to name,

we were told, but a trip to

Palafrugell market might

for other reasons.

Tamariu, Montserrat

properties in Andalusia. One week at Las Pilas costs from £1,035 in May and June, rising to £1,745 in July and August, based on nine people sharing. The company will arrange flights to Malaga from £143 return, and car hire from £140 a week.

Tips: a car is essential. Few shops or restaurants take credit cards: those that do only take Vlsa. Even in July, it can be cold at night, so pack sweaters.

■ Eating out: Hotel Nacional, Gaucin — an old, hidden hotel in the centre of Gaucin

motoring

travellers have stayed since the Napoleonic wars (00

34 5215 1029). Los Hermanos at Gaucin station in El Colmenar (00 34 5215 3109). Bar Pilar, opposite Gaucin petrol station (00 34 5215 1347). La Almuna (00 34 5215 1200), Molina del Santo (00 34 5216 7151). Puerto del Negro (00 34 5215 1239).

■ Reading: Lazy days Out in Andalucia, by Jeremy Wayne (Cadogan, £9.99, ISBN I 860 11060 6). South from Granada, by Gerald Brenan (Penguin, £7.99, ISBN 0140 16700 5). A Rose for Winter, by Laurie Lee (Penguin, £4.99, ISBN 0 140 03319 X).



which our hosts produced from a mysterious unlabelled

bottle. To burn off excess

calories on the morning after,

golf is the preferred year-

round pursuit of many visi-

tors. There are six inter-

national courses within an

hour's drive of Pals, and golf

training area is booming as

The main alternatives are

aqua (mostly at Estartit) or

skiing. With the Pyrenees just

a three-hour drive from Barce-

inhibited me from holidaying in Spain before. Once away. Lounging with the lizards

but we settled for a few gentle

nature rambles. Inland, ham-

pered by an absence of footpath signs, we made slow but pleasant progress through wheatfields, olive groves, vineyards and woods, admiring the clouds of butterflies and trying to ignore the coto de tourism in this official PGA caza siens. We assumed these simply horse-riding, fishing, bird-watching, windsuring, sub-

neant that trespassers would be prosecuted, but later found out their purpose is to discourage out-of-season hunting. In winter, we were reliably informed, everyone strong enough to level a rifle heads for the thickly wooded hills to blast anything that moves, principally pigeons, foxes, rabbits and the ultimate prize. wild boar.

One enjoyable short walk lay over the high cliffs between



Sa Riera and Platva de Pals along which can be found the best small beach for miles. A painted sign on the rock proclaims this a platya nudista, although in fact it is a costumes-optional cove, partly shaded by the towering cliffs, with fine sand and even a makeshift bar (complete with a nude barman, naturally). To gain a new perspective on the coast, explore its caves and discover the tiny coves

Continued on next page

gattes — pig's cheeks — which sound repellent but taste delicious. At the splendid lona, it is perfectly possible to rise early, ski all day and be bring us unexpectedly chin-tochin with Jimmy Hill. Sol Bianc farmhouse restauback by mightfall. Fortunately for Mr Hill, at rant just outside Pals, we Another solution is walking. any rate, people-spotting was followed these with pears in Budding Laurie Lies can cross Spain on foot following a not on our itinerary and muscatel topped off with a Palairugell proved memorable fiery bitter-orange liqueur planned route if they so desire,

selected a ring-shaped pastry topped with crystallised fruits from a fabulous range of

For non-vegetarian foodies,

Catalonia offers ample respite

from the ubiquitous paella. For a light snack, try sardines on pan con tomat — thick

bread glazed with salt, oil and

tomato seeds - or sonos, tiny

fish like whitebait which you

smother in lemon juice and

you can go the whole

hog, as it were, and try

Aswan, on the northernedge of Lake

Nasser, the traveller does more than just observe the life and relics of

Egypt.but in choosing to travelaking

the Nile, is using one of the principal means of transportation for the area.

The one aspect of cruising the Nile

that has changed has been the qual-

ity of the vessels and we have been

ucky to secure cabins on one of the

finest currently in service - the MS

Screnade. The modern and elegan

leatures of the vessel, together with

its musical theme, make it the mus

comfortable and relaxing way to see

the glories of Egypt. The 58 passenger cabins, all with full facilities, feature custom-made fur-

miture and picture windows with spec

tacular views of the Nile while the

public rooms are decorated in neo-

Fly from London Gatwick to Luxor

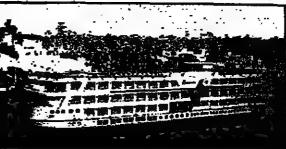
munch down whole.

multicoloured confections.

Busy all week but much expanded on Sundays, its market at first appeared to offer little temptation besides quite pricey lacework, although the atmosphere was enlivened by a one-legged busker strumming gypsy and flamenco tunes.

Then, heading downhill, we reached the market garden section. Revelation! spring onions and beef tomatoes, tubs of black cherries. racks of drying spices, boxes of edible snails. One stall offered a dozen varieties of olive, some the size of golfballs - take your own container and dip in. Another delight was the from elsewhere in Europe, nearby pastisseria, where we Along the Nile we find a timeless quietude over which preside the an-The Nile is Egypt and Egypt is the Nile' - thus ran the classical wisdom

A Special Announcement THE TIMELESS NILE of Herodotus, and in taking a lei-surely cruise to Upper Egypt and



Cruise between Aswan and Luxor on board the MS Serenade, one of the finest vessels on the Nile

cruise. Visit Denderah, Luxor, the and visit the Temple of Karnak. Re-Valley of the Kingsand the Temple of the Tem Khmum, sail to Edits and Kom Ombo visiting their temples, and on to As-

(optional excursion to Abu Simbel

 7 nights from £595.00 and join the Serenade for a 7-might £75). Return downstream to Luxon

turn flight to London Gatwick. DEPARTURES & PRICES Mondays - per person in twin 1997 - January 20, 27 £655

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ts unorthodox cuisine

## .. in the foothills of the Pyrenees the men of Pamplona battle to become heroes worthy of Hemingway

# Cock and bull stories of the mad race

hey definitely have a thing about bulls in Pampiona. Even on a grey December day. with snow in the wind from the mountains and stillness in the empty streets, the ghosts of the great black beasts of San Fermin seem to pound along Estafeta Street The pride of generations of

eager young men and the rush of the bulls has permeated the stones of the city walls, from the exquisite Baroque town hall to the huge builting with bottlenecked entrance which strikes terror into the hearts of breathless, wearying runners. The annual, crazy fiesta from July 6-14 seems to hang over Pampiona like a promise — or a threat — for the rest of the year...

Gabriel is slight and fair, in his early thirties. Has he run with the bulls?

"Of course. The sensation is unique. Every morning we gather, is minutes before they ire let loose. If you are not there 15 minutes early you are excluded. Then you feel huge disappointment — and total relief.

"We are all in white with scarlet faja [sash] and panuelico [kerchief]. You feel too visible, too vulnerable. Five minutes before the start it is very, very quiet. The only time the streets of this city are silent. You can smell fear."

Why does he do it? Gabriel's eyes light up: "Because I love

He likes to run with a friend, "because then we share the responsibility for those left at home. But we never say this aloud."

We are talking in the bar El Txoco in the arcaded Plaza del Castillo, in the centre of the ancient walled city. A bottle of Pacharan warms the day for us. Here, in the province of Navarra, in the Pyrenean foothills, where the winters are snowy and cold and the summers hot and arid, bilberries flourish on the mountainsides. From this local fruit and the liquor of aniseed is brewed the local speciality, Pacharan. A lot is home-made and decanted into three-litre containers. Because of some strange loophole in Spanish law, as long as the drink goes into three-litre bottles, tax and liquor duty are avoided. The tipple is tamous all over Spain but, they say, is

Later we move on to the Bodega Sarria in Estafeta Street, the narrow, tunnel-like street where the bulls run in summer. As we eat succulent spicy sausage (chistorra), an excellent black pudding called Morcilla de Arroz, and Ajoarriera, a melting cod and garlic stew, Gabriel and the young waiter exchange "pinned against the wall" stories.

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best drunk in its home town.

The pair look like fishermen boasting of their catch as they spread their arms to show the width of the bulls' horns.

time, any day", apparently.

who died in 1989.

idling at our villa.

pure bliss.

picture-postcard pretty - and

showily appointed, with typi-

cal darkwood furniture. Less

typically it had no radio or

television unless requested:

So instead of spending eve-

nings in audiovisual stupor.

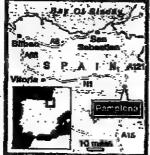
we sat on the veranda reading.

listening to the night birds or

watching geckos devour

moths (by day we also saw

most a foot long).



The local rose, or clarete, is a pleasant, light and dry accompaniment to the highly

with life and legend. Its name comes from the Roman Gener-

it is packed, day and night; a madness below.

Inside, in the bull in the world.

"He may have been small but he had colossal cojones." Juan says, referring to another part of the animal's anatomy The last of the Catriquiri bulls looks on with sullen eyes.

ans are playing mus, an obscure Basque card game, at one of the long oak tables. Although their days of running with the bulls are over, they warm to the subject.

fermines with that book iFies-



flavoured home-cooked food. Pamplona is a city filled

al Pompey, who camped on this hilltop in 74 BC. It became an Episcopal see in the 6th century and the cloisters of the cathedral date from 1277. The citadel is 16th century and rises elegantly, holding in its heart a relaxed and civilised people. Here a Basque nobleman,

who was later canonised Saint Ignatius, founded the Jesuit order, and to this day every third male in Pamplona seems to be named Inaki, Euskera for Ignacio. Here, too, in a less civilised moment, San Fermin (St Firminius) was martyred and dragged around the streets by a bull... which takes us back to La Sociedad Taurina, or the Bull Society, in Plaza del Castillo.

verlooking the street is a balcony. empty now in the winter dusk, but during the second week in July prized perch for viewing the

clubrooms and bar, Juan Roncal holds sway. He shows me the gallery of heads of huge bulls killed in the ring. The black Muira bulls are notorious for their ferocity, but there is an unexpected treasure here: the head of a Catriquiri bull, killed in 1889. This breed has since become extinct. Brown and smaller than the Muiri, it was none the less known as the most dangerous

A group of senior Pamplon-Henningway ruined San-

ta: The Sun Also Rises]. Now the locals leave the town and go to the little fiestss in the villages to get away from the

Yes," agrees another card



An enraged fighting bull rounds a corner as a fallen man tries to take cover during last year's San Fermin fiesta in Pamplona. The race through the streets breeds tall stories of bravery

player. "They have no idea, the tourists. They come pouring in here like floodwaters and some of them always want to run. They are a great danger. They start in front and then tire and trip by the time they reach the bullring. Then it is our boys, running behind them, who are gored.

"We do not understand them, these foreigners. One American ran with his wife and the was injured and went to hospital. The next day he ran again.

The old man shrugs in despair at such ungallant and incomprehensible behaviour. Don Rafael Lagana intro duces himself. He made 30 runs over the years. On the third day of the festival in 1969 he was gored and trampled, but lives to tell the tale, with many reiterations of its truthfulness and kissings of crossed forefingers to negate the

doubtings of Juan Roncal be-Juan watches with the jaundiced eye of a man who probably holds the world record for ening to cock and bull

When and why did they stop running? One hears of the great Geronimo Echague, who ran in every Santermines for 70 years.

"Geronimo wasn't married." Heads nod sagely over the card table. "It's not the same once you are married. Your girlfriend wants a hero, a crazy guy. Your wife wants a breadwinner, alive.

But even in this baven for reminiscences and, perhaps, a little boasting, the essential humour and honesty of the native Pamplonan is evident.

What was the overriding sensation, season after season tearing through the echoing streets just ahead of the buils? Loud laughter echoes round La Sociedad Taurina and they answer with one accord:

KAREN CONSIDINE

British Airways and Iberia fly daily to Bilbao. Prices until mid-February are: British Airways (0345 222747) from £104; Theria (0171-830 0011) from £182.

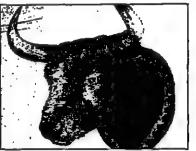
■ P&O Ferries (0990 980980) sails twice weekly from Portsmouth to Bilbao. Standard return fares from January 28. for car and driver, are from £275. Pamplon is about 90 miles from Bilbao using the A68 and NI. More picturesque but longer is the route taking the A8 past San Navarra province from Behobit

Where to stay: on the pilgrim's road to Santiago, Paraplona has plenty of hotels and PAMPLONA FACT FILE

B&B accommodation. There are also

three campsites outside the town — packed during Sanfermines. E Reading: Death in the Afternoon, by Ernest Hemingway (Arrow, E5.99, ISBN 0 099 909910 3). Fiesta: The Sun Also Rises, by Ernest Hemingway (Arrow, E4.99, ISBN 0 098 990850 6). Michelin Green Guide Spain (£8.99, 1SBN 2 061 52302 I) Spanish Tourist Board, 0171-499 0901.

Tourist information centre in Pamplons
Duque de Ahumada 3 (00 34 4842 7645).



The head of a bull killed in the ring

usually conjured up by an entertainment

relaxed atmosphere abound a well run

stuff. What you will find is a peaceful and

vessel which is well suited to the traveller

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who wishes to learn more about the natural world and history of the region. Informal after dinner talks and briefings from our distinguished.

lecturers and expedition team allow you to gain an additional insight, and whilst ashore our team will be joined by local

experts. Many of the excursions will be undertaken in the ship's fleet of inflatable Zudigo. These safe and adoptable craft allow us access to otherwise unreuchable spots, and permit us to explore remote uninhabited places

## ISLANDS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN A VOYAGE FROM DAR ES SALAAM TO THE SEYCHELLES BY WAY OF THE COMORES AND MADAGASCAR

ABOARD THE MS CALEDONIAN STAR 23 March-8 April 1997 THE ITINERARY DAY 10 Assumption, Outer Seychelles DAY 16 Make Arrive in the morning and

DAY I London (Gatwick) - Dar Es Salaam with British Airways, evening departure. DAY 2 Dar Es Salaam Arrive in the late morning and after a brief city tour and lunch embark Caledonian Star and sail.

DAY 3 Zanzibar Here the colourful harbour will be crowded with dhows. Visit this Arab style city with its long narrow streets, barance and houses with intricately curved doorways. DAY 4 At sea DAY 5 Moroni, Grand Comore The main

idand of the Comore group is dominated by a jagged volcano. Visit the capital of Moroni DAY 6 Draoudzi, Mayotte This steep leanic island is covered with rain forest Kalk to the crater lake and spend time in the charming capital. DAY 7 Majunga, Madagasgar Drive to

Ampijoroa Nature Reserve, an important tract of western dry forest habitat that remains untouched and contains a wealth of unique Sora and Launa. DAY 8 Nosy Tanikely, Madagascar Landing

by Zodiac we will explore this tiny island which is an officially protected marine reserve. Wonderful snorkelling and swimming and for the walkers lovely beaches and tide pools. DAY 9 Diego Suarez, Madagascar

At daybreak we will enter the dramatic Diogo Snarez harbour and make our way to the Malagasy rain forest at the Mount Amber

Our first call in the Seychelles will be at the beautiful island of Assumption. There will be time for swimming and snorkelling or DAY II Aldabra Go ashore by Zodiae to the

islands referred to by Sir Julian Huxley is one of nature's treasures and should belong to the whole world! Aldabra is unique and we are privileged visitors by kind permission of the Seychelles government. See the varied birdlife, sea life and onshore giant land tortoises forage as they have done for millions

DAY 12 At sea

DAY 13 Descoches Another remote and heavenly paradise island awaits. Swim and snorkel in the turquoise waters around the reef or join one of the leaders on a walk through the woodlands.

DAY 14 Aride-La Curieuse Once a plantation island, Aride is now owned by the Royal Society of Nature Conservation and is one of the most important breeding grounds for seabirds in the Indian Ocean. Relax on La Curieuse in the afternoon.

DAY 15 Praslin The 'Forgotten Eden' the second largest Seychelles island is a wonderful place. Best known for its Vallee de Mai, one of only two places in the world where the botanical rarity, the coco de mer grows wild. Here in the valley we will explore this exotic palm forest. La Digue surely one of the most beautiful tropical islands in the world. Explore on foot, bicycle and oxcart.

disembark, Island drive and transfer to a first class hotel for day use rooms until our evening departure by British Airways to DAY 17 London (Gatwick) Arrive in the

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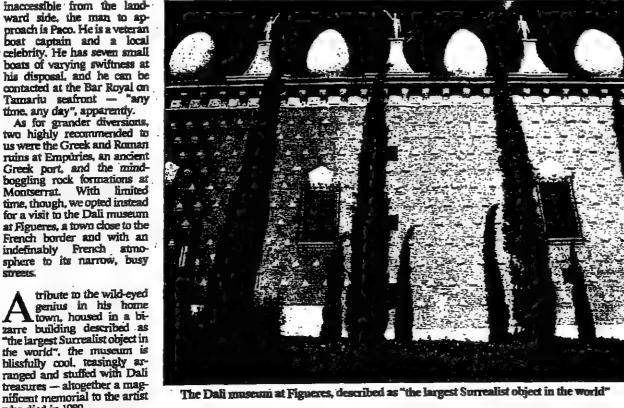
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for villas and apartments fall appreciably in the long low Back on the coast, we divided our remaining time beseason from September to tween driving around the June, rising to between £400 medieval hill villages, most and £2,500 a week in midsumnotably Pals and nearby mer, with August the most Peretalada — less pristine in expensive month. There is no its restoration but equally shortage of demand, particularly for the more upmarket properties, so early booking is This was roomy, comfortable and sensibly rather than

As for the cost of goods in general, we found prices compared quite favourably with those in Britain - and if you want a Catalan souvenir, the best buys are probably wine or ceramics. The latter, mostly produced in the town of La Bisbal, come in combinations of traditional hues: deep blue, daffodil, pale green and a rather unfortunate muddy-

fieldmice, snakes and two large, acid-green lizards like When discussing purchases, it helps to smile sweetly and chameleons, which were al-Naturally, such indolence attempt a few words of Catahas its price. Rental charges lan (quite distinct from Cartil-

ian Spanish). Until Franco's death in 1975, speaking Catalan in the street was an arrestable offence, so its use now has become a matter of fierce regional pride. The normal greeting, by the way, is bon din rather than buenos

By the end of a week of lazing in the sun, loitering in cool churches and sipping cafe con leche in medieval surroundings, we were so thoroughly rested that even the drive back to Barcelona along the autopista (a toll road, so don't part with all your pesetas) passed in a pleasant daze. Had all those suicidal drivers who seemed to surround us on arrival decided to stay at

JIM SOAR

● The author was a guest of PCI Holidays. Flights courtesy of Air

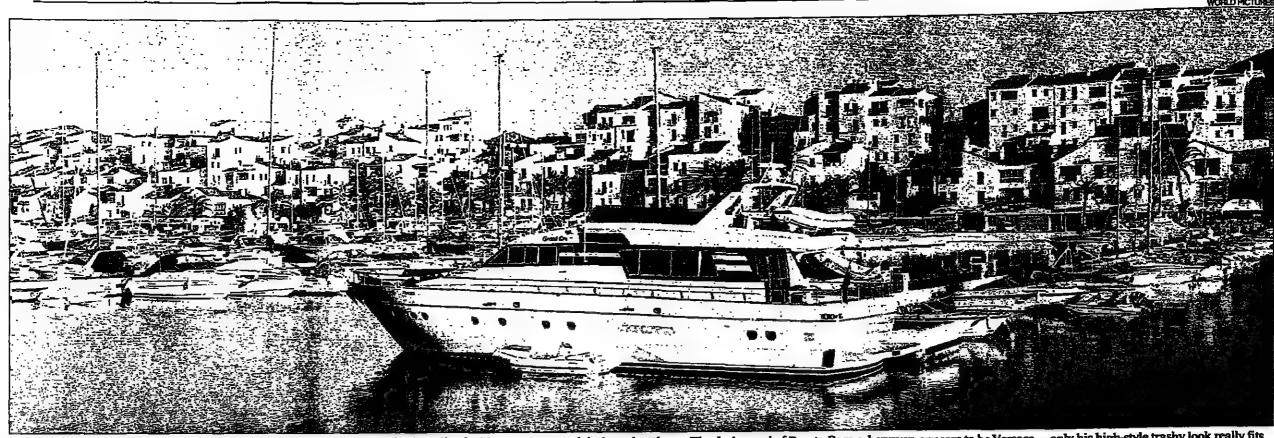
#### FACT THE E PCI Holidays, Bournemouth International

Airport, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 6SE (01202 591890) specialises in offering properties from apartments to villas. Prices from £175 to £1,145 (low season), £300 to £2,085 (high season) per villa per week.

M Air Europa (UK agent
Travel Now (0171-233 8100) flies to Barcelona from £127 return. British Airways (0345-222,747) and Iberia (017)-830 0011) fly to Sarcelona from £104. Reading Barcelona by Robert Hughes (Harvill, £12, ISBN I 860 460% S).

Voices of the Old Sea by 15.99, ISBN 0 130 34561 3). Homage to Catalonia by George Orwell (Pengain, E6.99 ISBN 0 140 18231 4

## Spain: More Versace than soggy chips on the Costa del Sol; plus fiestas from a hotel balcony up the coast



In Puerto Banus, where the real money is, ocean-going yachts clutter a harbour lined with restaurants and designer boutiques. The design god of Puerto Banus, however, appears to be Versace — only his high-style trashy look really fits

# Marbella's embarrassment of riches

in peak season, plus 7 per cent tax.

book before January 29 and fly by March 21.

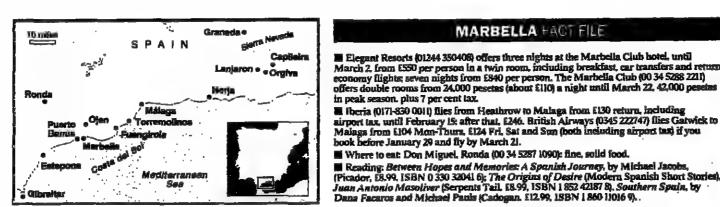
MARBELLA HACT FILE

certain ring when spoken by the British. On the downside, it evokes the furious and trashy package colonisation of the southern Spanish coast that has been going on since the 1950s. On the upside, it suggests a certain ease - reasonably close to home, guaranteed weather, beaches, good, affordable wine and, with care, exciting food. Plus, if you stray a few miles inland, there is the real Spain of blinding white mountain villages and herve, dark, lascinating

The good news is the upside is winning. The Spanish are tiring of the lager-and-vomit image and want to take their resorts upmarket. This is not that difficult. The ghastly holiday ribbon developments of Torremolinos and Fuengirola are easily avoided; the vertiginous joys of Ojen and Ronda are gratifyingly close.

The trick is to get the best of the sun, sand and Rioja and keep the real Spain in focus. If you are of an ironic disposition you can also take in the spectacle of the supremely bad taste wealth that dots the coastline from Puerto Banus to

But first the basics. West of Marbella - ie, away from the centres of grot - the coastal scene



takes on a Californian air of lowrise, fairly tasteful architectural extravagance. There are pockets of high life consumption - expensive car showrooms and so on that indicate you are well away from the world of the soggy chip. This is clearly the place to stay. To be precise the Marbella Club is clearly the place to stay.

Founded in the 1950s by Prince Alfonso de Hohenlohe, the club is so self-consciously not Fuengirola that you suspect the front desk could not even give you directions as to how to get there.

The club occupies a deep site that runs down from the road to the sea. Suites and rooms are entangled in the thick vegetation and are decorated in the cool, stylish, Mediterra-

nean way. At the sea end this becomes a rather loopy but visually successful "Beach Club". The beach is, of course, perfect and there are two good pools.

The bar and restaurant at night have a startling social dimension. Everything food and drinkwise is as good as you would expect — the prices are high — but what makes an evening there worthwhile is trying to figure out the nuances of Spanish society. Big-time aristos come here to dine and the waiters there is no other word for it grovel. This can result in moments of iffy service, but it's worth it for

So that's the beach-food-wine side of things settled. Finding the real Spain outside is easy. Ojen is a short drive, Ronda slightly longer. Ojen is the Spanish mountain village which all other Spanish mountain villages aspire to be. Gleaming white, it was clearly built by madmen who wanted to find the most impossible place to erect a village. The streets slope and swoop. And, amazingly considering you are so near the teeming coast, the people stare at you as if you were exotic. Clearly even these few miles of mountain roads are enough to keep the heavily-bellied Brits away. Eat tapas here. They don't speak a word of English, but

■ Where to eat: Don Miguel, Ronda (00 34 5287 1090): fine, solid food.

Reading: Between Hopes and Memories: A Spanish Journey, by Michael

you will manage. Ronda is a full-blooded tourist destination with its stunning gorge spanned by three bridges, one Roman, one Moorish and one 18th-

(Picador, E8.99, ISBN 0 330 32041 6); The Origins of Desire (Modern Spanish Short Stories) Juan Antonio Masoliver (Serpents Tail, E8.99, ISBN 1 852 42187 8), Southern Spain, by Dana Facaros and Michael Pauls (Cadogan, E12.99, ISBN 1 860 11016 9). century - dividing the town. The streets are lined with the usual tourist stuff, but Ronda, being so stately and so strange, can take it. Eat lunch at Don Miguel, on the north side of the gorge.

> ou could go on with the real Spain — the whole of Andalusia is spread before you - but, after Ronda, the driving distances start to become a little serious and you might start to feel anxious at being so far

One slightly mad excursion you might try is not into the real Spain, but into the real Britain - Gibraltar. This is a longish but straightforward drive from the Marbella Club and it's definitely worth it for



connoisseurs of the weird. Crossing over from the wasteland of La Linea is hard work — the Spanish don't like this border and they let you know it by making you queue. Here is Marks & Spencer, here is Pizzaland and here are those Georgian buildings. You have to do this if only to feel the sheer strangeness of a place like this so close to Ronda or Ojen. Cultures in improbable

But I promise the ironist will want to go to Puerto Banus. This is where the real money, the high liquidity goes. There is no history here, only the constant pressure of the present. Yachts clutter a harbour lined with restaurants and designer boutiques. These are filled with all the usual labels, but, on balance, the design god of Puerto Banus appears to be Versace only his high-style trashy look really fits. And the place is so hermetic, so sealed off from the outside world that the shops and the people have become one. Look at the dummies in the shops and

the people: they are the same.

Consumption has become smooth so quick here that the people and the products are becoming one Inevitably a mail, a surprisingly good one, has sprung up a couple of hundred yards behind the harbour. At night there are discos, probably hundreds of them, but my irony deserted me

and I didn't stay to find out.
But what we have here is a more
dynamic and varied holiday that you might have imagined from that resonant name "Marbella". The strange clashes of culture - tacky, wonderful or weird -- are exciting. You can stare at the villagers in Ojen or the Eurotrash in Puerto Banus for hours. Or, of course, you can stare at your increasingly empurpled English skin. Try it, but stay at the club as a

precaution. However crunchy the cultural mix out there, you want to get back to authentic luxury.

CHRISTENA APPLEYARD The authorwas a guest of

FACT

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flies from Heathrow to Malaga from £130

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Europa, 29780 Nerja, Malaga (00 34 5252 0800).

Double room from £48.

Reading: Andalucia

— the Rough Guide, by

Geoff Garvey and Mark Ellingham (E8.99, ISBN 1 858 28094 X); Cadogan Guide to Southern Spain,

by Dana Facaros and Michael Pauls (£10.99 ISBN

0 947 75460 l); Twelve Walks Around Nerja and

Frigiliana by Elma and Denis Thompson (available

£44. Hotel Baicon de

from £104.

# Never say die before you've taken that trip to Nerja

I would go to my maker before I went to the Costa del Sol. But after a summer of sickness — our household at times was like Casualty - we were in need of out-of-season. sun and I remembered that my sister had long enthused about the town of Nerja, a far cry, she said, from the Costa del Sol of popular myth.

We arrived - as one does on bucket shop flights - in the small hours, and found ourselves in a charming, pastelcoloured hotel overlooking the town square. The hotel garage was deep in the bowels of the earth. We drove the car onto

its way down alarmingly. In its heyday, it must have been the wonder of southern Spain.

I know not who saved Neria from the fate that befell much of the Costa del Sol. but saved was. It is helped by its location, sitting above a cliff, which protects its coves and beaches from development. And someone had the wit to ban high-rise buildings. The streets echo to British (and German) voices, but it remains a small Spanish town enjoyed by local people. Its chief feature is the Balcon de Europa, a platform jutting Mediterranean.

Palm-lined, it could have been designed by nature with strolling in mind.

Behind lie narrow streets. where authentic tapas bars we had the finest fish meals of our lives at El Chispa, a large helping of anchovies and sea snails, orange clams and tiny red mullet - coexist with pubs showing TV soccer.

One night, guided by a local ex-pat, we walked west towards the sunset, and cut inland to an unprepossessing restaurant. El Venta Miguel, where we drank potent Jumilla wine and ate stewed rabbit. Aithough it was on the

would not have given the building a second glance.

I had been told to walk for my health. Most days we divided between an exploration of the hills behind Nerja and a few hours on a beach. Elma Thompson, an exiled Mancunian, and her late husband. Denis, have written guides to local walks. The Thompsons are no Wainwrights, but the books exude a feisty defiance of landowners who try to block rights of way and take one up hidden valleys and through avocado-laden groves past braying donkeys.

We walked the two miles to the Nerja Caves, which had been rather pooh-poohed by some guidebooks as "Disney-fied". They proved to be a stunning natural phenomenon - a great underground cathedral. Only discovered in 1959 ("just in time for the tourist boom", as one cynic observed), they stretch for three kilometres, though only one is presently open to the public.

Two Moorish villages -Frigiliana and Competa - lie the hills above Nerja. Frigiliana is such a jewel of bourgainvillea-decked streets that it seems unreal: we felt we had wandered onto an operaset. Resisting, though only just, the enticing smell of barbecued lamb wafting from the Garden Bar, we ate at El Mirador, an open-air cafe with a view across the village roofs. where the cheerful proprietor offered us an almond liqueur on the house.

ompeta has a fine square in front of its ✓ loth-century barroque church and covered market which sold rabbit, fish and gleaming fruit. The church had electric votive candles the more money you put in. the more bulbs you illuminated - and the most lifelike representations of the Holy Family I have ever seen. They wore Spanish carnival

At a café table in the square we glimpsed a group of English people who looked like denizens of the Costa del Crime". The main man was archetypal east London.



Frigiliana, with its flower-decked streets, is so pretty that it feels like an opera set

chains: he had cropped grey hair and spoke good Spanish: the group swapped jokes about "keeping things well locked up", drank beer from the bottle and, when we returned from our walk, had progressed noisily to G&Ts.

Our most ambitious trip was to the Sierra Nevada, the mountains that run between the coast and Granada (we chickened out of the queuing we heard was inevitable when visiting the Alhambra). Stopping first at the spa town of Lanjaron, we walked into the

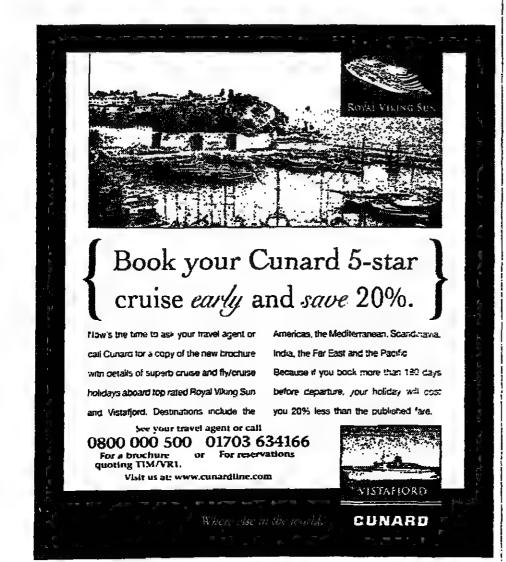
hills. A faise start took us up a river bed, from which we only escaped by climbing a creaky iron ladder up an abandoned dam. My stock as an expedition leader never recovered.

Above Orgiva twisting roads lead to three villages in the High Alpujarras: the top one, Capileira, is at 4,000 feet. Snowy peaks reached up to a deep blue sky, scarlet pimientos hung to dry outside the whitewashed cottages. The Moorish influence is strong. Roofs of chestnut beams are overlaid with canes and flat stones, onto which grey mica is spread. The technique is Berber and is also found in the Rif mountains in Morocco.

During our stay, Nerja cele-brated a four-day fair. Traffic was banned, and the chainsaw buzz of mopeds gave way to the explosion of rockets. Gigantic fairground machines, which seemed to rocket riders to the stars, were set up, and music played that must have been audible in north Africa. The women wore traditional dress, and there were daily parades. Our hotel room bal-

conv came into its own. Ricia in hand, we watched the pageant unfold beneath us. Spain fulfilled the promise of the brochures. The sun shone every day, and the tempera-ture was 75F. Our walks and daily couple of hours on Burriana beach gave us healthy tans. The trip was the cure we needed and it banished our deep-rooted prejudice against southern Spain. I am determined to return

before I meet my maker. ROBERT CHESSHYRE



#### WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 27 LASTAGE

(a) A toll payable by traders attending fairs and markets. From the medieval Latin lestagium. The word also means the ballast of a ship, a payment to load a ship, an impost levied on the catch of herrings and finally it is a word for

rubbish. **MEDIAMNE** 

(c) An island in the middle of a river. Dodgily from the Latin, medius, middle and amnis, river. Diverse Armelettes breaking out of the two streames and making

MOSCHIFEROUS

(c) Bearing or producing musk. From the medieval Latin. mosch-us. Hence come the moschiferous glands of the

COLLOP (a) A dish made of beaten meat, a steak. The word can also mean an egg fried on bacon afterwards called collops and eggs. "I haue no salt Bacon, Ne no Cokeneyes, bi Crist Colopus to maken ... bacon and colhoppes."

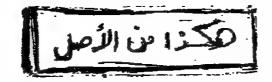
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Da holei balcon up the weekend saturday January II 1997 Hungary: The contrary pleasures of Budapest and exploring the ancient cities of the Danube by boat

# You say goodbye and I say hello



language, which any you ever learnt. In Hungarian, hello means goodbye. Whereas "szia" is pronounced "see-ya" and means - well,

you get the idea.
When you discover the of riches Magyar method of arranging names surname first, and the penchant for writing the sender's address at the bottom left of a sheet of paper, then you will have begun to understand some of the contrary pleasures of a trib to Pudance.

Perhaps this feeling you get the familiar and the foreign has to do with the city's location at the edge of western Europe. Csepel Island in the middle of the Danube, just south of Budapest proper, has been pinpointed as the exact ographical centre of Europe. like Greenwich and its hemispheres, Budapest straddles the two halves of the continent.

The spires and turrets of Castle Hill in Buda on the Danube's bank look east tomuch flatter Pest faces the nilly west, where the foothills of the Alps begin. The Dandivides the two cities. Once quite senarate settlements. they maintain their distinct characters, despite the eight bridges which now join them. Buda-pest is the united city. which helpfully for the visitor is divided up again, this time

one of the world's great gnes for its castle too. Hansburgs, though much of it failed to survive even the

Your tour of over-the-top also take in the riotous neo-Gothic of the Matyas Church, and the ridiculous wedding cake folly that is the Fisherman's Bastion. The atmosphere, however, is harmony itself. Stroll the castle ramparts in the early evening in the company of promenading Budapesters and their dogs.

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and enjoy the tranquillity.

Buda's other lofty viewpoint is Gellert Hill, crowned by a Hapsburg fort, the Citadella, and the Liberation monument, visible right across the city. The views here are stupendous too. Down at the base of the hill is the Gellert Hotel. Its turn-of-the-century façade is worth seeing but what you really come here for is the spa baths. Thermal pools lead off the beautiful Art Nouveau main chamber, where you can swim under a domed roof surrounded by Ionic columns.



in the summer the entry price of 600 forints (E3) includes admission to the outdoor pools and sun terraces.

After your swim, time for some refreshment. Like most modern European cities, Budapest is packed with restaurants and bars, serving cuisine of all varieties, giving the lie to the notion that eastern Europe is all dumplings and sauerkraut. With a good guide book, eating out can be fun and cheap. Even our vegetari-

an friends didn't go hungry. Our favourite spots were Marxim Pizza, a backstreet joint packed with communist kitsch and such delights as Gulag Pizza and Pizza à la Anarchismo and for a slightly more authentic experience, a wonderful old artists' club in Erzsebetvaros District VII, the

Jewish quarter. And so to Pest. Flat yes,

without the green hills of its western neighbour, but cross the Danube and you are in the modern heart of the city. Here trams, buses, underground trains and trolley buses queue up to whisk you about for 50 forint (25p) a time, or grab a map and walk. Two more huge buildings of dubious architectural provenance strike you at once. The neo-Gothic Parliament building dominates the Pest bank of the Danube and, though faintly reminiscent of Westminster, it

has a style all its own. We also visited Budapest's largest church, the Basilica of St Istvan - the tranquillity of its interior undisturbed by Madonna who had been refused permission to film inside the previous day. Its greatest attraction is the holy relic in a chapel at the back - the Hand of St Istvan. Its original owner

was the saintly lith-century king of Hungary, revered by the nation to this day. Put 40 forints in the slot, and a casket lights up to reveal the holy fist inside. After St Istvan's death in 1038, the hand was carried off to Vienna via Transylvania and Dubrovnik, before it was rightfully returned to Budapest in 1774. The Nazis also pinched it for a while.

nother building to see in Pest is the Built in the last century for Budapest's once sizeable Jewish community, this is the second largest synagogue in the world after the one in New York, Not unlike Westminster Cathedral in style, it is being beautifully restored with the help of the Tony Curtis Foundation (his parents were Hungarian emigres).

Although the Jewish population is more significant than in other eastern European cities, Imre Varga's beautiful weeping willow Holocaust memorial is a reminder of the fate that befell many here.

When you tire of pounding the streets or strap-hanging on the tram, take a river trip, and get a barge's eye view of Buda and Pest from the Danube. In the summer, boat trips will take you north to the ancient cities of the scenic Danube Bend, Szentendre, Visegrad and the ancient capital, Esztergom, its castle was founded in the 10th century by Prince Geza, father of St Istvan, who entertained Barbarossa here.

But it is Esztergom's Basilica which is its main attraction. Claimed to be the fifth largest church in the world, it dominates the Hungarian bank of the Danube, and even more stunning river views can be had from the tower across to Slovakia on the north side. Esztergom makes an excellent day trip from Budapest.

Other distracting locations outside the capital include pretty Hungarian country towns such as Vac (45 minutes by train), and Eger, in the heart of one of Hungary's most important wine growing areas (two hours by train). Forget Bull's Blood (Egri Bikaver) on which the region's fame chiefly rests. Hungarian white wines must be some of Europe's most underrated. Visit Eger's medieval castle and its cellars where you can sample such little-known delights as Egri Leanyka, a delicious appley white wine which costs 40fts (20p) a glass.

Aside from Eger, my favourite out-of-town location is the Rest Home for Retired Communist Statues in a southern

suburb of Budapest - the Szoborpark. Here you find Lenin and other heroes of the former eastern bloc who used to stand proudly atop grand plinths. lt's a bizarre but brilliant place. Try to resist the temptation to take silly photographs your companions (we couldn't, and buy a tin containing the Last Breath of Communism as a kitsch sou-

venir. Back in Budapest for

last-minute shopping, you

csarnok or Great Market Hall in Pest, three floors packed to the ceiling with Hungarian produce -fresh paprika, crisp white embroidery, wine and wooden toys. CDs are good value too, and Bartok and Kodaly the most appropriate composers to take back if you can't hack the many gypsy violin combinations on offer. With its unbeatable setting, Budapest is one of the most

rewarding cities in Europe. Not as grand as Vienna, nor as beautiful as Prague, it nevertheless has a bustling character all its own. Both Buda and Pest are packed with landmarks, museums and interesting corners which beckon the visitor, with too little time to spare. I hope to return soon.

> CAROLINE SANDERSON

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#### ■ The author travelled to Budapest with New Millennium Holidays, 20 High Street, Solihull, West Midlands B91 31'B (0121-711 2232). A tenday coach trip, including seven nights' B&B in Budapest, costs from £159-£204 in May-October.

■ British Airways (0345 22211) flights to Budapest cost from £189 return (booked before the end of January). Lufthansa (0345 737747) flights to Budapest cost from £204 return.

BUDAPEST FACT FILE

■ Where to stay: a double room at the Hotel Gellert (00 361 185 2200) costs from £96 per night. The Budapest Marriott Hotel (00 361 266 7000) has double rooms from £35 per night. Beke Radisson Hotel (00 361 132 3300) has double rooms from £110 per night.

Reading A Hungarian Romance, by Agnes Hankiss (Readers International, &6.99, ISBN 0 930 52382 2). The Undefeated, by George Horvath (Eland, £8.99, ISBN 0 907 87122 4). Hungary, by Dan Richardson & Charles Hebbert (Rough Guides, £8.99, ISBN 1 858 28123 7). ■ Hungarian Tourist Information Service, 0891 171200. Tourist office in Budapest, 00 361 117 9800.

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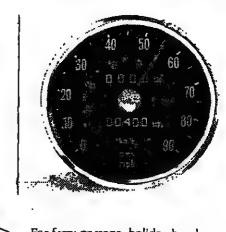
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Vietnam: Markets are the lifeblood of towns, teeming with the vibrant colours and sounds of peasant life

# This little piggy just squealed

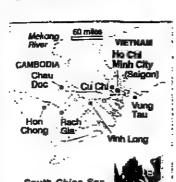
twice, three times as the two men lifted its squirming pink body by its tied legs and stuffed it into a wicker basket attached to the carrier of a moped. Soon all three were phutphutting off along the potholed road. Whether it liked it or not, this

little porker was off to market. In the Mekong Delta, everything that can be eaten is. The region is Vietnam's ricebowl, fruitbasket and butcher, and every creature and plant that can be grown in the flat, vivid-green miles of paddies. deltas and ponds is trussed up and transported by bike, moped, cyclo, bus, boat or foot on thronging dirt roads to the nearest town, where it will be picked up, haggled over and eventually stuffed into a plastic bag and taken home for dinner.

Markets are the lifeblood of every Vietnamese town and, apart from the occasional Buddhist or Co Dai temple, church or mosque, they are the main source of entertainment for visitors. It is here that one encounters the everyday Vietnam: where peasant life is shricked in every colour and sound.

The market at Vinh Long was my first. At 7am on the riverfront, amid the spluttering of boats moored alongside wooden, thatched riverhouses, the day is exploding in a mix of garish colours, diesel fumes, animal squeals and rotting lish bones. Tiny, lean peasants in trouser suits and bamboo hats noisily unload produce. exchange dirty wads of dong, and stream into

the covered market area. The pineapple boat pulls up. piled two-men high with fruit. Buyers stream forward, shouting, gesticulating, bargaining: pushing large sacks forward for their produce to be loaded into. Street children pull on armsleeves, begging buyers to buy something from one of their dirty little boxes: chewing gum, sticky breadsticks covered in sesame seeds, banana chips wrapped in grimy plastic,



Women yell to each other across the mayhem. Vendors with poles over their shoulders bearing baskets of drinks, howls of soup and noodles. give their high-pitched cry. There is only one escape from the heat, the jostling: to the indoor market.

Under cover, in the cooler but cloyingly meat-sweet air, the business of the day is under way. Exposed by the filtered streams of light pouring through the canvas and patchy thatch, an area about 200sq ft comes into view, sectioned off into areas of produce. To the left is bucket row: beside it teapot alley: then sandal street, biscuit lane; china town. Stalls are ordered and stacked high, the produce farmed, wiped, trimmed, polished. "Madam, madam," is the cry. "Very pretty. Very nice. Where you from?"

good is central to the market: row upon row of salted. dried fish — stained red. curried, saffron'd — with stinky fins, tails and scales. Tables are lined with designer-white ducks: beaks open, gasping for air, yellow legs bound with raifia.

Off to the right our piggie and its pals are snuffling through discarded vegetable matter. A table above them sports a single pig's head, and women stand by, staring longingly, counting money.

At the poultry stall dozens of women argue over prices, picking up mangy cockerels by the feet,



Local markets, with their noisy haggling, are the main source of entertainment for visitors, apart from the occasional Buddhist or Co Dai temple, church or mosque

ruffling through their feathers, prodding and checking for unwanted insect life, then plunging the purchases head-first into large checked woven-plastic shopping bags. Baby ducklings huddling by the hundreds in wide shallow wicker baskets cower, evading the sun as the sellers run their hands through their masses, feeling for fatalities, and ticks.

I wander aimlessly, eyes scouring the stalls as new colours flash by: as children run up, laughing and squeating, pulling hairs on my arms (very few Vietnamese have visible body hair). Then I head for the streets and an iced-coffee as the market odour penetrates my clothes, nostrils and brain.

On a rickety metal chair beneath a street café umbrella, I survey my purchases with satisfaction: one pair of wooden-soled flip-flops (E3), packet of cashew ruts (50p), bag of dried banana chips (30p), one steamboat (a tin saucepan for cooking fish soup with under-pan space for hot coals, £2.50), a newspaper extolling the virtues of American investment (30p), a clay plantholder painted with the ducks I had just witnessed going from

bike to bag to pot (£2).

Then it is off into another market: the cyclo waits while I perform my final haggling act, before a lean-limbed cyclist helps me up into his magical machine and whizes me back to the western pleasures of a room of my own. And there I sit, reflecting on a good morning's shopping, without the shouts of a se market.

Lisa Grainger • The author was a guest of the

■ The Imaginative Traveller, 14 Barley Mow Passage, Chiswick, London W4 4PH (0181-742 8612; brochures, 0541 551163) offers a seven-day tour of the Mekong Delta for £280 including all internal transport (except cycle hire), basic hotels with bathroom, and English speaking guide. Food: about £40.

Flights from Heathrow to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) by Thai Airways (0171-499 9113) cost from £655 return.

Tours start in Ho Chi Minh City: recommended sites include the War Crimes Museum (formerly known as the Museum of American War Crimes); Reunification Palace, on which the North

#### VIETNAM - ALT FILE

Vietnamese raised their flag in April 1975; the French-built Art Museum, which houses works from revolutionary. murals to contemporary -Impressionist style pieces; and the two main markets, Ben Thanh and Binh Tay. From Ho Chi Minh City, minibus tours of the delta can take in the Cu Chi tunnels, the market town of Vinh Long, a river trip to an orchid farm and fish factory, a few days exploring the temple and markets of the fishing towns of Rach Gia and Hon Chong, and a trip inland to Chau Doc, about 45 miles from

final stop, before heading back to Ho Chi Minh City, is the seaside resort of Vung Tau, with its buge fleet of fishing boats, reasonably clean beaches and sealood.

Visas can be arranged by The Imaginative Traveller. Malaria tablets are essential; see your GP.

M Reading: The Quiet
American, by Graham Greene
(Penguin, £5.99, ISBN 0
14018 500 3). A Bright Shining
Lie. by Neil Shechan (Pan,
£10, ISBN 0 330 31304 5). River of Time, by Jon Swain (Mandarin, £6.99; ISBN 0 749 32020 6). Vietnan Rough Guides, £9.99, ISBN 858 28191 1).



WEEKEND - SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997

The Borders: The bloody past of the feuding Scots and English family tribes is being relived after 400 years

# On the trail of the murderous reivers



mentous event in Newcasfleton over the past 30 years was the Edinburgh to Carlisle route in anuary 1969, they staged a

A young David Steel, then the MP for Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, was travelling on

After that eruption, the 18thcentury village returned to quiet anonymity. But several hundred years previously this remote area of southern Scotland was home to some of the most lawless families in the whole of Europe. They were collectively known as the reivers, the name probably deriv-ing from the old English word reafian (deprive, plunder). are being invited to follow

Liddesdale, where many reivers lived, was part of a region which took the full force of two warring nations who became so accustomed to eath, and destruction that they thought nothing of inflict-

civers were not confined to ing and the burning of homes was endemic throughout the border country and only with the union of the crowns in 1603 did it start to die out. It had

The word blackmail - the paying of protection money the reivers' legacy to the English language (greenmail was then the name given to agricultural rent). Borderers also knew what it was like to be bereaved (be reived).

The curious thing," says George MacDonald Fraser, who wrote the authoritative book on the reivers. The Steel Bonnets, "was that reiving was a systematic and accepted way of life for those living on the frontier, even in peacetime. Reivers came from every social class and most of them were ordinary members of the

community." Reiving was not always a smallscale affair. William Armstrong of Kimmont -Kinmont Willie" -- often raidIn 1593 he forayed into England at Tynedale with 1,000 men, stealing 2,000 beasts and some £300 of spoil.

in the early part of the 16th century it was recknned that the Armstrongs - "the most feared and dangerous riding clan on the whole frontier Mr Fraser says - could put 3,000 men into the saddle. The heartland of reiver

country is an area running about 40 miles to the north and northeast of Carlisle, where the terrain is often as wild now — and certainly as

Drive nine miles west from Newcastleton to Langholm you will know what desolation row feels like. No prizes for guessing that this is where the reivers used to hide their stolen cattle.

If you want a short introduction to these gangster families, Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery in Carlisle, whose emblem is a number of reivers oo horseback, has a tenminute audio-visual presenta tion. From February it will sell a CD-Rom called in Search of the Border Reivers.

At Tullie House are the records of 77 reiver surnames. such as Armstrong, Bell, Charlton, Dacre, Elliot, Graham, Maxwell, Nixon, Robson among them, you can have Unfortunately, this service came too late for the former American president Richard Nixon, but Mr Fraser writes in his book: "It is difficult to think of any face that would fit better under a steel bonnet."

ust across from Tullie House lies impressive Carlisle Castle which, in its time, was headquarters of the Warden of the West March, the border country in reiving days having a West, Middle and East March on each side of the border. The warden's job in those areas was to keep law and order, though some were gamekeepHermitage Castle, the principal fortress of Liddesdale, is a foreboding presence in an unforgiving land, epitomising the savagery and bleakness of 15th and 16th-century border life

open to the public. Askerton with its two pele (fortified) towers served a similar function to Naworth and is well Lanercost has a delightful,

the way to Bewcastle, is not

12th-century priory. Part of it is in ruins but the nave of the old church is still used for worship. In the old days, Lanercost was a regular fix ture for Scottish armies but today the only danger seems to come from cattle which have a taste for car mirrors.

West March fort you are crossing some of the favoured reiving routes from Liddes-dale into the Tyne valley. More reivers probably passed this way 400 years ago than cars do now. Turn left at Bewcastle and.

on a narrow road, head towards Kershopefoot, a few miles to the northwest. Just by the bridge, where Kershope Burn meets the Liddel Water. is a former "place of truce", where Wardens of the March on both sides of the border held periodic meetings to try to sort out the grievances of people plagued by reiving. Today only the babble of water breaks the silence.

Three miles along the B6357 Newcastleton which, until this year, was the home of the Clan Armstrong Trust centre, a one-room museum of the said family with archives, genealogical tables, replica armour and pictures of famous Armstrongs, including Neil.

The centre will re-open in English West March and four spring at Langholm. miles north of Lanercost on If there is one fortress which

pitomises the savagery and century border life it is Her-Castle, a foreboding ce in an unforgiving land. Even as a partial ruin it sets the imagination racing.

the present building was complete by 1400 and for 200 years was of Liddesdale. It acted both as obstacle to English armies and as a base from which Scottish kings could control the reiving husband of Mary Queen of Scots, lived here as lieutenant of the Marches in Scotland.

Head west for eight miles along a narrow road to the A7 and you are once again in splendid and hilly isolation. Turn south along the A7 and make for Langholm and then Canonbie, where the Riverside Inn is an excellent place to eat, drink or stay.

From the Canonbie bypass you can spot Hollows Tower sometimes referred to as Gilnockie Tower - which, like Smailholm near Kelso and Aikwood near Selkirk, are fortified towers, other reminders of a turbulent past.

Canonbie is at the eastern end of the Scots Dyke, a ditch three and a half miles long which marks the border be tween England and Scotland in what was a narrow area of country called the Debateable Land because its ownership was disputed and neither England or Scotland had jurisdic

tion. Reivers loved that. Debateable Lands is also the title of a television series on the reivers which Eric Robson the chairman of Gardener's Newcastleton, is producing for Border Television to be shown later this year.

The Carlisle visitor centre will soon have lists of reiving sites - fortified towers, places of truce, cemeteries and monuments - many of which will be opened to the public. By the end of the year, you

should be able to follow reiver trails both south and north of the border. Reiver country will be on the map again.

**CHRISTIAN DYMOND** 

#### REIVER COUNTRY FACT FILE

(0)228 34781), open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm £3.50, children and concessions £2.50.

Carlisle Castle (01228) 591922), open daily 10am-4pm (until mid-Mar). £2.50. cones £1.90, children £1.30. Naworth Castle (016977

3229), open for groups of 15 or more by arrangement ■ Hermitage Castle (01327 376222), closed until the end 9.30am-6.30pm, Sun 2-

6.30pm. £1.50, concs £1, children 75p. Riverside Inn, Canonbie (013873 71512), double rooms (B&B) from £75. Closed last

two weeks in Feb. Smailholm Tower is closed until end Mar, then open Mon-Sat 9.30am-

30pm, Sun 2-6.30pm. £1.50, concs £1, children 75p. Hollows Tower (013873

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(01684) 295405

(0181) 953 8227

(01703) 266611

71876), open by

children £1.50. Aikwood Tower (01750 52253), open April-Sept

Tues, Thurs, Sun 2-5pm. Groups by arrangement

appointment. Suggested

donations, adults E3.

Reading: The Steel Bonnets (authoritative book

on the reivers), by George MacDonald Fraser (HarperCollins, £9.99).

Carlisle visitor centre, 01228 512444. Dumfries and

Border reivers in Tom Scott's Auld Wat O'Harden

Galloway Tourist Board. 01387 250434. Scottish Borders Tourist Board. 01750 20555.



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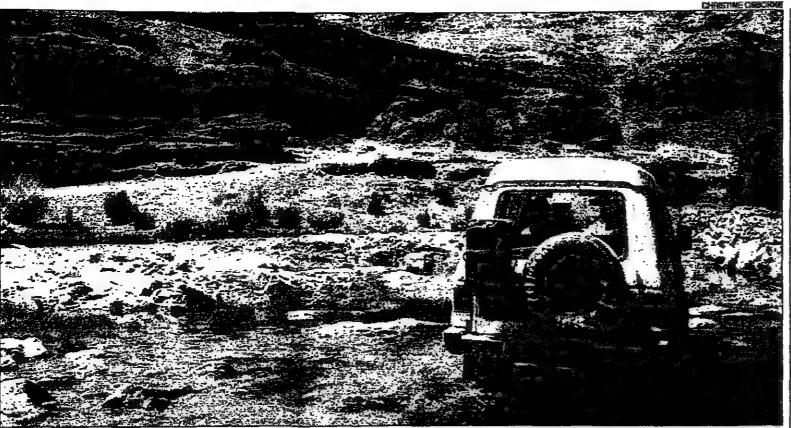


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## Family favourites AMONG the companies rated

best for customer satisfaction for 1996 are Simply Travel, VFB Holidays, Sunvil, the Travel Club of Upminster and Eurocamp. All are members of the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO) and among the 150 companies listed in its Directory of Real Holidays. All are fully bonded yet, they say, many of their holidays are either unavailable or poorly displayed by mainstream travel agents.

These operators, often fam-

inese operators, their tanily-run, claim to lead the way
in quality, flexibility and
knowledge of their destinations, the range they offer
varying from beach and cultural holidays to sports and
wildlife watching, from marathen running in Tunisia to
frozen river trekking in the
Himalayas. One firm managed to guide a 60-year-old
woman up Everest,

As a pressure group. AITO has forced a review of the cosy travel agent/tour operator connection by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, and members are quick to point out that Inspirations and Airtours, two of the country's largest operators — not AITO members — fared worst in the Holiday Which? polls.

The Directory of Real Holidays '97 is available free from AITO on 0181-607 9080.

## Oh my, Oman WINTER sunshine breaks

with a touch of adventure are offered by Jasmin Tours (01628 531121) from January 25. The nine-day off-the-beatentrack Oman safaris, travelling by 4x4 vehicles, include visits to Muscat and the fishing village of Quirat, Wadi Surwayh in the eastern Hojar mountains and camping at Tiwi Beach. Prices start from £1.072, with flights, accommodation and most meals.

## Going basic

HOLIDAYS to the republic of Georgia have been introduced by Bristol-based Regent Travel (0117-921 1711). The newly independent country on the centuries-old trading route between Asia and Europe, has a rich diversity of architecture and cultures to tempt travellers prepared to put up with basic facilities and occasional delays, but looking for some-

JILL CEANSHAW'S INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TIPS

Breuil-Cervinia in Italy before

crossing to Zermatt, where he

became the first man to climb

dation in hotels and mountain

refuges, guides picnics, and luggage transportation.

SOAKING up the atmosphere of a busy wine estate during

the harvest, with picnics in the vineyards, a traditional end-

of vintage supper, even helping with the picking are all part of a five-night tour by Arblaster and Clarke (01730

893344) to Vendange in the

Rhône and Languedoc next

September. Guests are based at Château Violet in

Minervois, and an auberge in

Chateauneul, with visits to

leading domaines in both

The cost is £1,099. A five-

night trip to the Burgundy Wine School at Nuit St

Georges during the Trois

Glorieuses wine auction, costs

£1,299. Both prices include flights, accommodation and most meals, with wine.

OPPORTUNITIES for work

and travel in Ghana. South Africa and New Zealand are

available from Bunac (0171-25)

3472), the non-profit making

organisation that arranges

jobs and exchange visits, mainly to North America and

Australia for students and

those taking a gap-year break

before university. Camp counselling and kitchen work at

children's summer camps are

Gap year

regions.

the Matterhorn in 1865.
All prices include return flights, half-board accommo-

Drink-up

thing different.
On a 16-day tour starting in Tblisi, the capital, there are visits to the wine-growing area of Kakheti and the 6th-century cave monastery complex of David Garedzha; a trip on the Military Highway, which cuts a path through the Caucasus the birthplace of Josef Stalin, and the fortress of Khertvisi,



Stalin's statue in Gori Georgia, his birthplace

believed to have been visited by Alexander the Great. The tour costs £1,625 for flights and full board. A five-night break to the capital, including a trip to Mtskheta, the old capital, costs £699, half board.

## Footsteps

THREE NEW historic walking trails are included in the Summer Inn-Active programme by Inntravel (01653 62881!) and feature the quieter regions of Europe with strong local cultures. "In the Footsteps of the Smugglers" follows a mountain route weaving in and out of Spain between Cerdagne and Cartigou, the week's tour costing £765. "In the Footsteps of the Viking Kings" (£908) travels the Viking road from Grindaflet to Aurtandsfiord in Norway. "In Whymper's Footsteps" (£989) follows the route Edward Whymper took from

# Holidays at the touch of a button ast July, my husband. two sons and I soaked the prices were not just the true cost of the holidate the holidate the true cost of the holidate the holidate

ast July, my husband, two sons and I soaked up a fortnight of deluxe pampering in Kenya's swishest seaside hotel. What made it possible was that we bought the holiday half-price off the TV using Teletest.

Like many families who dream of the perfect holiday, each year our aspirations far outstrip our financial options. The solution, I suggested, was to buy a bargain late booking. Despite a near rebellion from my conservative family, I pressed on.

The first hundle was to discover how to use Teletext—I barely knew how to turn on the TV. Most good TVs can receive Teletext, although most people do not use it. In fact, it is easy. Simply take the hand set and press the number for the ITV channel (often number 3), then press the button marked "text" and finally punch in the page number 200.

The world of cheap holidays is now at your fingertips. But beware: the pages turn automatically so it is essential to locate your "hold" button in order to drool over the possibilities of two weeks at the Hawaii Beach, Cyprus, for E649 or blowing £1,499 at the four-star Le Sport in St Lucia. As to the jargon, HB means half board, SC means self-catering and All Incl can mean all meals, water sports, trips out and even a starter account

at the pool bar. My husband saw only hotels which are still a plot of. land and an architect's drawing. Clearly, concern is common. "Scheduled flights" or British Airways flights are often mentioned, many flights are daytime, and departures are from Manchester as well as the London airports. As to accommodation, while the cheapest holidays of all may promise 14 nights in an unnamed four-star apartment in Tenerife for £189, most name the hotel.

At the bottom of the screen, headlines in different colours lead to specialist topics, reached by pressing coloured buttons on the hand set. We pressed the red button to reach the "more tropical" pages.

the "more tropical" pages.

As the pages drifted by we discovered that our geography was hopelessly limited. An atlas was essential. So, too, was a basic knowledge of the world's weather patterns—the Maldives and Thailand would be cheap in July because they were sunk beneath the monsoon, Barbados, Jamaica and other Caribbean islands were dodgy too, while Kenya would have just

emerged from the rains. Cheap prices were not just weather-related. Some places had governments which had collapsed, civil war was imminent and no one in their right mind would go there on holiday. Others, I suspected, were giant slabs of concrete on isolated coasts with no trees, villages or locals for miles.

villages or locals for miles.

How was I to avoid a disastrous holiday? Perhaps brochures would tell us more about our potential destinations. At my local travel agent, Ideal Holidays, Philip Jarvis was not encouraging: "You'll get what you pay for". Never

'Friends said it was only cheap because we would be knifed, shot or robbed'

mind, I replied, as I helped myself to half a dozen brochures. He weakened at my resolve, advising me to book no. later than four weeks before departure.

He then rose to the Teletext challenge and offered competition: a discounted villa in Greece from Tapestry Holidays and an utterly dreamworthy holiday in Mauritus with Beach combers which offered a saving of £1.000 per 
person — tempting. If you 
could afford the £2.000 per 
person in the first place. The 
brochures provided pictures 
and plenty of information on

the hotels. They also revealed the true cost of the holidays. Working on the theory that the saving was almost as important as how much we spent, we agreed to search Teletext for a deluxe exotic holiday since it would offer the highest discount.

Back we went to the screen with our brochures. Mexico, Cyprus and the Red Sea went out on grounds of bad hotel aesthetics. Kenya moved to first place with a choice of three five-star coast hotels at knockdown prices.

An assortment of informed friends delighted in telling me it was cheap because we would be knifed, shot or have everything stolen.

For a saner approach, I

relephoned Primrose Stobbs at Abercrombie & Kent Travel, specialists in Kenya travel. She immediately told me which hotel would be best for us and asked me how much I was paying.

When I sald "E730 for two

When I said "£730 for two weeks, half board, water sports included, Caledonian Airways direct flight to Mombasa, one son half price", she replied: "Go for it. We can't match that." And so we did, fulfilling our highest aspirations at the sumptions Indian Ocean Beach Club just south of Mombasa.

And cruising through Teletest this week, as the snow fell on London. I noticed sunny Lanzarote for £99 for a week.

LOUISE NICHOLSON

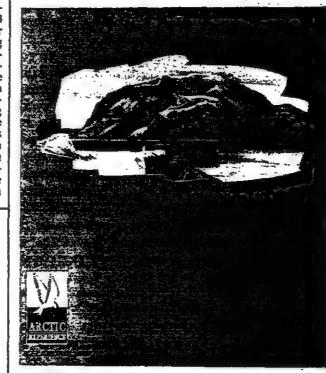
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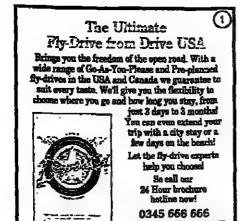


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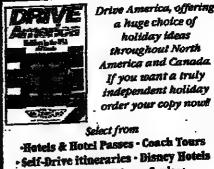
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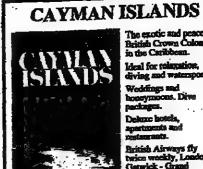
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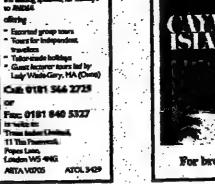
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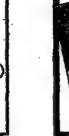
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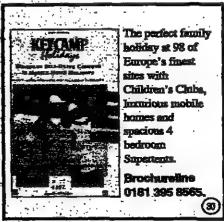
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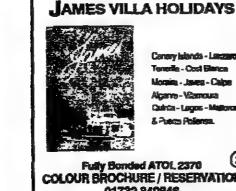


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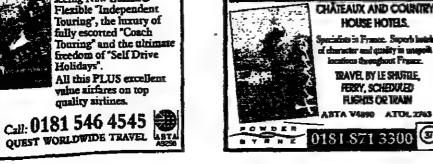
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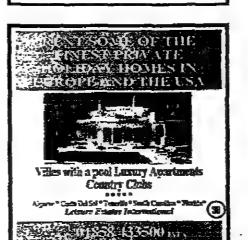
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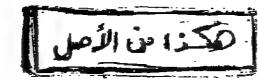
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CHESS

## by Raymond Keene

HERE ARE the answers to the Christmas quiz, which appeared on December 21. I set four puzzles of varying difficulty.

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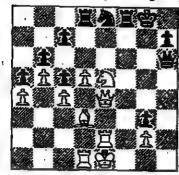
White to play White has sacrificed a piece in order to cluster his attacking forces around the black king. The obvious try is I Bh7+, but after I ... Kh8. can White make progress, or does White have something stronger in



Answer: White's best course is I Bxf7+ Nxf7 2 Qg6+, and mate in one follows.

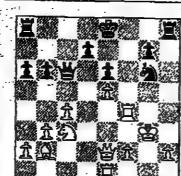
Gonzalez-Bravo Havana 1995 Black to play

A pawn which has marched close to the enemy king can be extremely dangerous. How did Black exploit the presence of his pawn on g3?



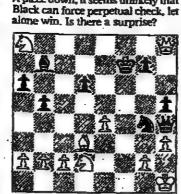
Answer: i ... Rfi+ 2 Kxfi Qhi mate Kacakovski-Szuhanek; Palie 1995 Black to play

White is not only a piece up, but seems better developed and better centralised. Is this the case?



Answer: Black has a devastating coup: 1 . . . Rh3+ 2 Kxh3 Nxf4+ forking king and queen. If White meets 1 . . . Rh3+ with 2 Kg4 then 2

 Qg2 is mate, Yanes-Foyo; Cuba 1995 Black to play A piece down, it seems unlikely that



Answer: Black's winning move is surprising because it strikes at such a well defended point. Black wins with 1 ... Bxe4 with the threat of . . . Qxh3+. Whether White captures on e4 with knight or bishop on move 2, Black's . . . Qel+ will be deadly.

The winner is T. Welch of Camberley, who will soon receive his jeroboam of Moët & Chandon champagne.

Chess for Charity On Saturday March 22, I will be taking on all-comers in a simultaneous display at St George's Hospital, Tooting, London SWI7. This is to raise funds for the £1 million Hold My Hand appeal for children's intensive care. Details from Lucy De Ville, Appeal Office, St George's Hospital (0181-725 5096).

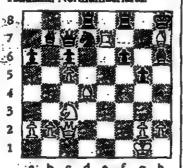
#### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene White to play. This position is game Moran - Pupo, Matanzas 1995. 🕟 White has sacrificed a rook to invade the black kingside. How. 8

does he now conclude with a

subtle manoeuvre? Send your answer on a postcard to The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN. The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society, which includes a free invitation to the annual dinner at Simpson's-in-the-Strand. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Rlxd4 (1 exd4 2 Qxh7+ mating) Last week's winner: J. Nicholas, Hexham, Northumberland.



### PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the carloon (right), from The Strand Magazine treproduced from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection. Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption 34, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, January 15.



## WORD MATCHING

By Philip Howard LASTAGE

a. A toll b. Old age c. Durability

MEDIAMNE

a. A half

b. Ancient coinage c. An island in the middle of a river

MOSCHIFEROUS a. Deceitful b. Bitter tasting

c. Producing musk COLLOP

a. A meat dish

b. A species of grass c. A blunder

Answers on page 18

#### **BRIDGE**

## by Robert Sheehan

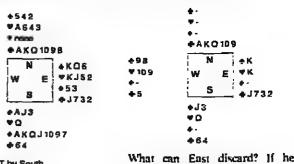
IN QUESTION 2 of the Christmas Bridge Quiz you were shown only the North-South cards of the hand below. You were asked to play 7NT on a spade lead, East contributing

In the complete deal, I have set up the East-West cards to demonstrate where best play gains.

points). You can afford that. because if the clubs run you won't need the ace of hearts. The play gains when the lay-out is as above (5 points). After all the diamonds have gone

including the ace, and one club (5

this is the position; East still to



Contract: 7NT by South Lead: ten of spades

+109B7

¥10987

+8642

**e**5

With North the dealer a possible bidding sequence to 7NT is:

The key bid is North's Four Clubs,

This unnecessary jump, when the partnership is in a game-forcing situation, conventionally shows a

Strictly speaking, he should have the jack instead of one of his lower cards. Over Four Clubs South thinks there are plenty of tricks, so he checks up on aces via 4NT. Obviously your main hope in 7NT is that the clubs will run, but it costs nothing to play off all the

diamonds first. You discard two

spades from dummy, all the hearts

major-suit kings and four or more The Christmas Quiz first prize, a jeroboam of Moet & Chandon champagne, goes to G. Sadie of Cheltenham. Second to fourth prizes, an unnual subscription to International Popular Bridge, Bridge Magazine or Bridge Plus, go to J. Simons, N. Tomkin and M. Bird. Copies of More Bedside Bridge, allotted by random draw,

throws either king, South cashes

his newly-created winner and East is in trouble again. It is an example

of a repeating squeeze. It would also have worked if East had the

• Information on Macallan Pairs (January 22-24) on 0181-878 5844.

go to R. Harrison, W. Marsham, G. Muir, P. Walsh to R. Harrison, N. Mace,

and A. Wilson.

### COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

#### FLIGHT sims started out simple while other problems call for by Tim Wapshott enough, teaching us to fly planes you to lower a rescue harness and helicopters over mostly anonymous landscapes. Inevitably the genre got increasingly sophisticated, flying us through more realistic, even recognisable, horizons and or use a teargas gun. Despite options to run graphics at different resolu-

"I telephoned the Loch Ness

police and they said to hold on"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by N. Richards of Redditch, Hereford and Worcester

tions, so accommodating lesser computers, SimCopter remains a fairly grainy affair lacking much detail. Still, the title is carried off by the atmospheric radio and overall ingenuity. In addition to the 30 city scenarios of the title, you can also import and police your own saved Sim City 2000 creations. For Sim City fans who feel they have now exhausted all possibilities, SimCopter is perfect for renewing interest and vastly extending playability.

SimCopter remains a fairly erratic affair. Much of the time the problems on the ground come thick and fast but there are moments when there's too little to do for too long and hovering around with nowhere to go can get

messages, you must hone agility skills to help keep the traffic moving, airlift crash victims to In contrast, there is something of hospitals, extinguish fires, chase a gilt-edged white-knuckle ride to criminals and so on. Some demand be had exploring the Court of Louis XIV and 17th-century Paris in Cryo Interactive's Versailles 1685. On little more than a blast on the megaphone, telling people to move on or stay just where they are, dual format PC and MAC CD-

Enjoy the Court of Louis XIV on a superb virtual reality tour in Versailles 1685

Rom, this is a coupling of a superb virtual reality tour of the Palace of Versailles with a routine adventure game.

As a tour of the palace it works best. Over 200 paintings hanging on the walls can be enlarged for better viewing - albeit with rather poor definition — but there is a great sense of glamour to the visit. You can explore the elegant state staircases leading to more modest servants' quarters at a leisurely pace or race, very smoothly, hither and yon at breakneck speed, as if playing over-familiar scenes from Quake. Accompanying the tour is a score of delectable Baroque music, In adventure game mode

rooms as well as the spiral

the aim is to interview 30 or so courtiers you find around the palace, unearthing cloak-anddagger skulduggery. At odds with the richness of the palace graphics, the characters look and behave awkwardly - like Captain Scarlet rejects. The some way to rectifying the ugliness of the ugliness of the characters but not far enough to make for hours of fun.

For that, look out for the next big title due this month in the "sim" stakes - Bullfrog's Theme Hospital. Referred to in some quarters as a "sick-em-up", you play hospital administrator and approve all the key decisions to make or break your corner of the NHS service. Early reports suggest the game overflows with plenty of sick spins and even new illnesses to combat.

Clearly Theme Hospital promises to be a more rounded and longer lasting sim sequel than SimCopter — but you don't need to be mastermind to work that out. Talking of which, many of you

thought that the Mastermind presenter Magnus Magnusson was born in Scotland. In fact he hails from leeland, the correct answer to our Cyberspace Twenty-Eight competition. Thank you to all who entered, our 12 winners of the BBC's Mastermind CD-Rom are: Jean Blagden of Rotherham, Re-becca Caines of Doncaster, Edward Christopher of Switzerland, Mary Cotterell of Carlisle, Claire Dart of St Leonards on Sea. Janet Donbavand of Twickenham, Neil Gibson of Sunbury-on-Thames, Jean Grzesik of Sheffield, Andrew Hughes of Yelverton, Dev-on, Michael Moran of Penrith. Matthew Scott of Clifton, Notts, and David Taylor of Cambridge.

"Annoy boasting friends talking about the capabilities of their new PC by insisting that a new model with twice the power yet half the price is imminent. Especially irritating since it is invariably true." Cyberspace Twenty-Nine Top Tip entry from Stephen Welch of Stockport, Cheshire.

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

## THE LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3392: Boundary by Apex

#### Boundary (clockwise) gives a normal clue to column 8 and sets the Theme for the puzzle, Clues are given to each row and to each column; where 1 more than one word occurs, the clues are in the correct order and stand side by side without overlapping. The symbol in the bottom row represents a dash, not a hyphen. The 12 unchecked letters of Boundary give NEW TV COW FUND. Chambers (1993) is recommended.

putting us behind more buttons

and controls than the BBC boasts.

tion, auto-pilot is invariably en-

gaged to keep things simple and do

away with endless gauge-watch-ing. SincOpter, from Maois for Windows 95, thrusts flight sims into reverse. Instead of flying yet

more transatiantic missions to land

passengers — or dump missiles —

on far-off shores, the scale of the

action here is much more manage-

able. As pilot of a rescue chopper

you are charged with keeping law,

order and peace of mind in one of

30 cities, each involving missions of

The belicopter is simple enough

to fly and, prompted by radio

varying complexity.

Now, to counter such sophistica-

ACROSS Lewis returning for work, to learn about one . 4 new net a relative of old Bird cut down (5.5,3) Active fellow backing the chief scout, as before,

runs from side to side (3.5) Delay about late cut - larger-than-life fellow rum out, I see (6,6) Scene of a lapse? Need to reform language -

slip drops one - men in a line turn to snari A crawler back in huge trouble. Viewers, early 7 English, admit batting a month in Test is

ridiculous (4,4,5) Wood, learner in a Test, after length - 1m 8 bowled a flipper - time to appeal for

enterprise? (5.4.4) Important dates in summer — a shady tree one getting runs affected - target about one Catching good, batting good, previous estimate - man will bag a couple of runs (6.6)

Chapter in one short story of stress in the Oval

becoming a habit? (5,3) Endless initiative in field - Lamb's poor alien soul about to catch old Australian (3.5.5)

## Man carrying club, to remain a pro once domineered over ring in wild west show (6.5) Pest to ring up opener in another county game in Wilts — he's crazy about No.1 (4.9)

Caller getting up staff again — some guru sounding bugle — one finishing off formally with a bit of reveille? (5,4,4)

The most original character in Tests? Sporting Len and Reg elect Bird (12)

5 Deceived one bowled out! - worn piece of old earth has been turned up (4,4)

Entertainment for those standing to consider - a topless girl-dancing around copper? (13)

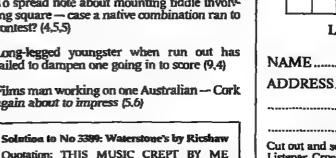
A girl Mike's met provides cold drink for a fan

Boundary (11 words)

To spread note about mounting fiddle involving square - case a native combination ran to contest? (4,5,5)

Long-legged youngster when run out has failed to dampen one going in to score (9,4)

Films man working on one Australian - Cork again about to impress (5.6)



Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3392, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Herdordshire AL3 6HE, by Thursday, January 23.

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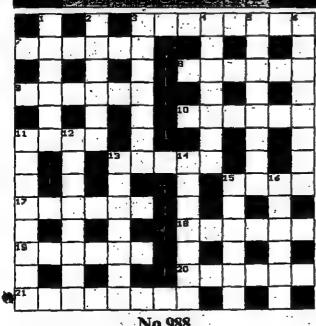


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. . .

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3 Exerciser's weight (8) 7 Jean -, French tragedian (6)

8 Arrive (4.2); hand-made ciggy (4-2) 9 Sechided or dangerous

place (6) 10 With sharp, uneven edges (6) 11 Cannabis plant (4)

13 First appearance (5) 15 Refuse to obey (4) 17 Flaccid (6)

18 Rage; to moderate (6) 19 Empty inside (6)

20 A kept man; paid escort (6)

21 Bunthome's bride (GSS); card game (8)

**SOLUTION TO NO 987** 

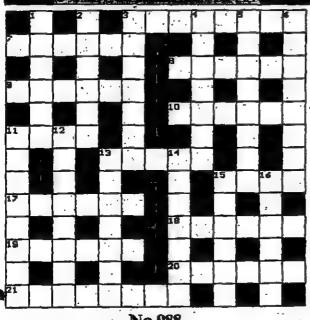
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DOWN

t She demanded head of Bap tist (6) 2 Take for ransom (6)

3 Dispossess [7]

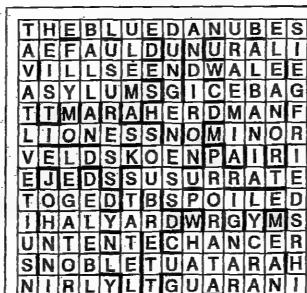
4 In good spirits; able to float 5 Speak in high praise of (8) 6 Engraved on stone; digni-

fied (style) (8) 11 Straitened circumstances (8)

12 Speaking only one tongue 13 Speak regretfully of (7)

14 Take attention from (/) 15 Harm, loss (6) 16 With little strength (6)

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Quotation: THIS MUSIC CREPT BY ME UPON THE WATERS (FERDINAND) from The Tempest. Perimeter musical pieces are all associated with rivers: The Blue Danube (Strauss); Siegfried's Rhine Journey (Wagner); Severn Suite (Elgar) and Vitava (Smetana). Across clue words after modification: 10 faul; 13 arrow; 15 harms: 16 morel; 17 y: 18 cold; 19 crew; 20 move; 22 pit; 23 sandal; 28 star; 29 bard; 30 wet; 33 earing; 36 one; 37 risk; 38 any; 39 disparat; 40 state; 41 in. Down clued versions: 2 HEXST: 3 BALLAB; 4 OLEMA; 5 LUNGENESS: 6 ANDIWON: 7 RRAEMIA; 8 ELEANOS: 11 FLYGO: 12 USUREXS: 14 ALBANIS; 21 SOUURETTE; 24 LEGATOX; 25 PRO WATA; 26 JOHNFIE: 27 DELIBLE; 28 SCATELY; 31 IGNARC; 32 LYDRA; 34 WHAIR: 35 MEARE.

The winner is C. Bickmore of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. The five runners up are: R. Hooper of London SW19; J. Markintosh of West Wickham, Kent: R. Noskwith of Sandiacre, Nottinghamshire, D. Milna of Shepton Mallett, Somerset, and M. Kerr of Bangor,

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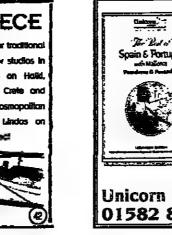
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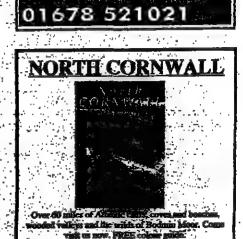
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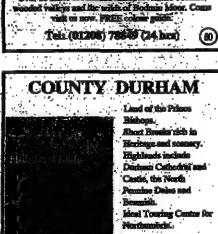
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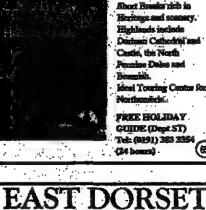


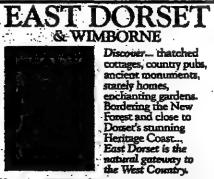


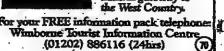


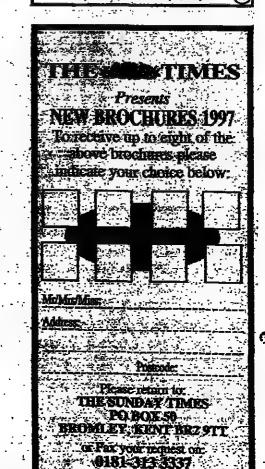




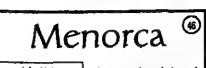








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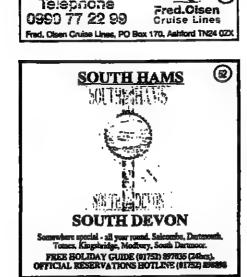
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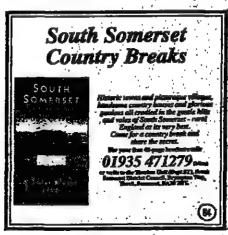


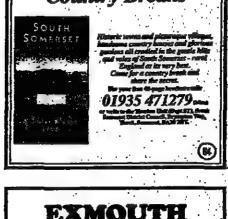


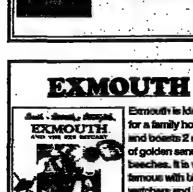




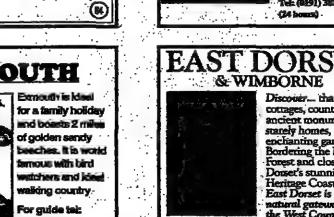


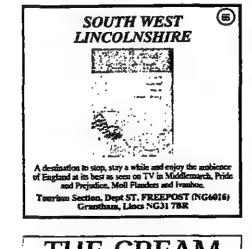


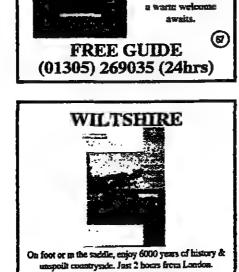












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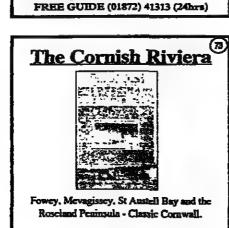
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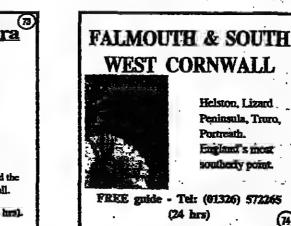
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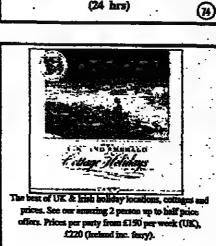
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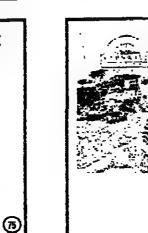
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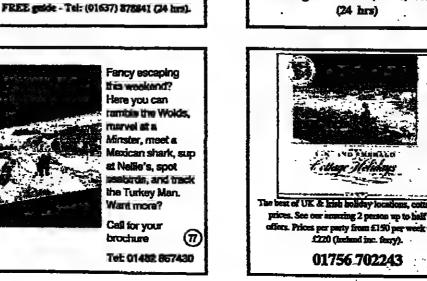
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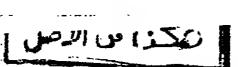
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**(76)** 





Lotus gives the Elise an electric shock

Page 3



Why the model champion is named 'Schuey'

Page 12



Small is

beautiful

again THE ARRIVAL of the Mini in 1959 sounded the death knell for the bub-ble car, writes Alan Copps. Ever-more stringent safety legislation put nails in the coffin of such vulnerable small But the engineering ingenuity devoted to fitting the human frame into ever-smaller shapes on wheels survives. The current pace has been set by Ford with its Ka. But the technology of tiny transport will take a much more significant forward Mercedes-Benz

New Mercedes has a unique double floor

the small-car field for the first time later this year with its A-class.

This car, unlikely to arrive in Britain before 1998, is shorter than a Kabut boasts the cabin space of a Mercedes Cciass. It features an engine tilted at 59 degrees and a unique double floor that enables it to pass crash test legislation.

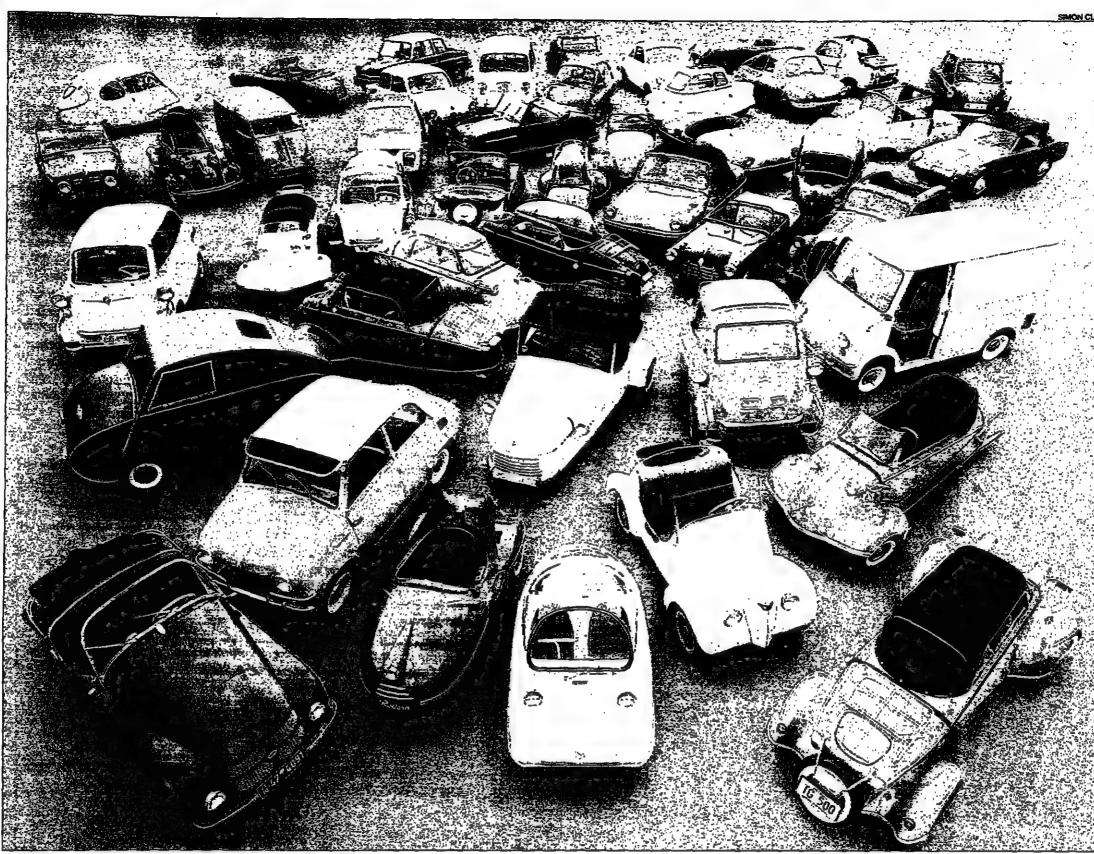
Meanwhile engineers at Rover are working flat-out to perfect the replacement for the 38-

vear-old Mini.

With new car sales in Britain topping the two million mark last year for the first time since 1990, the small-car market was led by increasing demand for sophisticated five-door superminis. We've come a long way from the basic bubble of the post-war years.

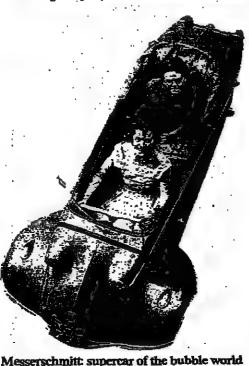
SATURDAY JANUARY II 1997

# The bubbles blow into Britain



Bubble gum tycoon Bruce Weiner's immaculately restored collection of microcars resulted from a four-year collecting obsession. For a detailed key to the cars going for auction in London, see page three

## A unique collection is up for sale, says Alan Copps



Messerschmitt: supercar of the bubble world When you go to buy one of these you are

hat would you do if you made a fortune selling bubble gum? Bruce Weiner took to collecting cars and rapidly became a specialist — in bubble cars, of course. In the space of four years, his interest developed from curiosity to near obsession. He criss-crossed the Atlantic from his home in Canada in search of rarities and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars restoring them. Some were revived from scrapyard relics to pristine

"I used to buy sports cars. I was looking through magazine ads at a page headed M for MG and I saw this little picture of a Messerschmitt. I just couldn't believe it. I'd never seen anything like it. I had to have it.

"Once that was done I went and bought more in Germany, the UK, Sweden and in North America, where they were never seen on the roads but where there are a number of collectors. I was hooked. They just have such character and some of them are really engineering masterpieces. When you go to buy one of these you are

buying a stepchild in a piece of metal," Mess

"Whenever someone sold one to me it was always a sad parting. People become so attached to them. But I couldn't resist the thrill of the chase. The rarest of them, like the Tigers, are as rare as the rarest Petrari."

The result of his passion was a barn full of almost 50 bubble, or more correctly, microcars, believed to be the largest privately-owned collection in the world. Now with mixed feelings he will be crossing the Atlantic in a few weeks' time to see 45 of his precious stepchildren sold by Christie's at auction in London.

"I thought it was time to stop. By the time I finished I was employing three people full-time to look after the cars. If I'd gone on collecting I would have had to open a museum. I'm not in a position to do

that," says Bruce.

But he can't quite let go: "I'm keeping two or three back. They are just such good conversation pieces and you can put them anywhere. I'm looking at one I've put in my office as we speak, it's a fine 1955

Messerschmitt KR 200," he says from his headquarters in Concord, Ontario.

When the cars come to auction on March 6 at Jack Barclay's showroom in Vauxhall, South London, they will provide an astonishing contrast to the usual occupants. Barclay's ia the capital's leading Rolls-Royce and Bentley dealer. Malcolm Welford, Christie's motor car expert, who will sell the cars says: "This must be the largest collection of bubble cars to be sold. It's one of those sales which will provoke interest well beyond

the usual circle of car collectors.

"These vehicles have a tremendous cult following in the design and fashion worlds. They say so much about the period when they were produced. I wouldn't be surprised if some of these cars sell in groups to motor or design museums."

The cars will be sold without reserve and although final estimates have yet to be agreed they are likely to be between £1,000 and £20,000, depending on age, condition and rarity. There is no official Continued on Page 3



BMW Isetta encapsulates the classic Fifties bubble-car shape

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Why does Britain's infrastructure go to pieces when a snowflake falls? You can't even get your slush-filthy car cleaned unless you drive to Helsinki

## Great unwashed get frozen out

lthough the recent cold weather has been enough to make Chris Bonnington think twice before going out for a packet of mints, the general mayhem brought about in Britain by a taste of the chilly stuff is one of life's more baffling phenomena. What is it about the British car wash, for example, that causes it to freeze solid at the sight of a Michael Fish weather warning?

I went out one recent chilly night determined to find out what colour my car would be if it wasn't filthy. Eight car washes and 35 miles later, I was none the wiser. But at least I had heard some interesting excuses for this most basic amenity's vulnerability to weather. A man at the first one said that his car wash was indeed working, it just wasn't open. Eh? The trouble

**DRIVEN TO** DISTRACTION



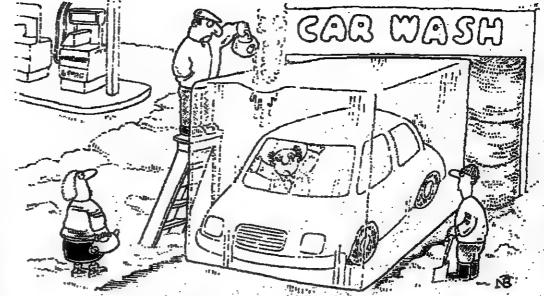
Peter Barnard

was, the water used in the wash ran away on to the forecourt. If it froze and someone fell over, he might be sued. Three car washes later, my hopes were raised. A huge sign with typography of a size to make The Sun proud announced: CAR WASH OPEN. I

behind the sort of glass used when serial killers are allowed visitors. "I'm sorry," she said. "I haven'i

been able to take the sign away because they lock me in at night." asked her what would happen if her till caught fire, but left without hearing the answer. The next garage but three had a jet-wash. Perhaps this would be working? One of those individuals whose acquaintances are all called Mate or Pal said: "You must be joking, Pal. Hasn't worked since Christmas. Try the one three sets of lights down on the left, Mate."

I did but it wasn't. The attendant said that it had been working, "let's see now, Tuesday I think it was, no, might have been Monday, but it was on and off". People had been going away with half the car clean, all sorts of ructions,



game wasn't worth the candle,

At car wash number eight, two people buying the sorts of essentials no self-respecting garage would be without - nylon stockings and a tin of soup — joined me in wondering what people in colder climes did about washing

said, people in Finland aren't driving round in filthy cars for six months of the year?

So I rang up Finland. Specifical-ly, the British Embassy in Helsinwhere a helpful young lady transferred me to Tony Falzon, a Brit who looks after the central heating at the embassy and in all a chat about the weather. On the night that my car went unwashed in a temperature of minus 4C, the temperature in Helsinki had fallen to minus 19C. But Tony could still

t his car washed. "For one thing," he said, "all the car washes are enclosed. They have automatic doors. But the main difference is that the water in

e LONDON

A406 Upper Edmonton;
major toadworks on Angel
Road (North Circular Road)
over the Lea Valley Viaduct,
A3 Kingston; northbound
lane closure on the Kingston
Bypass between Shannon
Comer (A298) and Coombe
Lane Junction (A238).
Heavy congestion.

Heavy congestion. A224 Saint Mary Cray, lane closed on the Sevenoaks W

A3212 (9pm-6am) Bridge Street and Victoria

Street and Victoria
Embankment closed
overnight at weekende,
between Parliament Square
and Westminster Bridge,
A232 Wallington;
readworks on Croydon Roadaround the function with
Manor Finial.

A330 Ascot; roadworks and temporary lights are in

place. A27 Brighton; overnight (10pm-6pm) work on the

Ditching Road Bridge. Diversions.

Brighton bypass between the Hangleton Junction and

on alip roads, with other local restrictions.

M27 between junction 8

(A3057) and (A343); bridge

restrictions and limit closures

with lane dissums and contratiow at times. A303 Andover between

maintenance with lane

M25 junctions 6-10;

both ways. A3 Hogs Back (A31);

SOUTH WEST

Water-mein work

roadworks at the Stag Hill

A3022 New Road, Brixham.

M5 junction 13; major roadworks with only one lane

open at the roundabout junction with the A419. Long

contrations with 50mph speed

MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA

Bypass (A564 under construction), roadworks A6 Lockington; contraffer

from just north of the M1 junction 24 to Sawley Island (B6540) with no right

turn into Donnington Lane. A14 Nottingham,

roadworks and lane closure

the railway station and Broad

in both directions between

A464 Haughton; temporary

lights. A14 between Bury St

Edmonds and Kentford; contrallow wastbound.

Alt5 Barrack Road, Christchurch; Lane clos

delays. M5 junctions 17-20;

A38 Derby Southern

COSUMES.

livover.

# SOUTH EAST

New rules forcing learners to pass the theory test first have spread confusion and hit instructors, says Alan Copps



Low technology: driving schools have criticised the Driving Standards Authority's pencil-and-paper test. Computers would help pupils get results much quicker, they argue

## Schools write off test changes

test introduced on January 1 have left many learners confused, according to some driv-

Although the changes were flagged when the driving theory test was introduced on July I last year, the Driving Standards Agency, which administers tests, has been criticised for not giving them more publicity as they became eff-

One of the chief changes means that learners will now have to pass the driving theory test before they are able to book a practical test. Under interim arrangements that lasted from July until January I, the two tests could be taken in any order

The DNA says that was a purely administrative measure, because practical tests would otherwise have to have been halfed while new drivers tool theory tests. But the change to "theory first" has hitbusiness hard at some schools devoted to providing intensive driving courses.

John O Shea, who runs the

School, near Canterbury in Kent, says: "The DSA just seems to have ignored the problems of schools like mine. I've gone from 14 cars down to two. A lot of my customers were expatriates who would do an intensive course and take their tests during a twoweek holiday in Britain.

"Now they need a minimum of 17 days just to book and get the result of a theory test. To do the practical test, too, would require a month's holiday. Next week, for the first time in six years. Eve got no pupils. Mr O'Shea is also critical of

the form that the theory test takes. "It's the technology of the last century. No technology at all, just paper and pencil. If they used a computer-based test a candidate would know immediately whether they had passed or failed and would know where

they went wrong." The British School of Motoring. Britain's Jurgest, has also campaigned for a computerbased theory test.

A spokesman for the DSA said the next generation of theory tests, in three or per-Kingston Intensive Driving haps five years time, would be

technology-based, "But the test has to be universally acceptable. Most candidates may be in their teens or eventies, but we have to allow for those of 65 who may never have touched a computer keyboard before."

He said there was nothing stop candidates booking and sitting a theory test before they started an intensive course. "We are meeting our targets on theory tests now. There is a maximum two-week waiting period and people get their results within seven to ten days."

In the first few months of the theory test, which has now been sat by more than 500,000 people, some candidates had to wait up to a month to get their results.

The pass mark was raised three months after introduction, from 26 out of 35 auestions to 30 out of 38. Since then the pass rate has fallen from around S3 per cent of candidates to around 60 per cent.

The DSA spokesman said the "theory first" change had not been the subject of publicity because its advertising budget had been devoted to more fundamental changes in motorcycle tests, designed to put an end to the phenomenon of permanent learner" motorcy clists. "It was important to let people know about that change because it affects people who are already on the road, rather than those taking tests after January I." said the

These changes mean that all motorcyclists must now complete the DSA's Compulsory Basic Training course which consists of essential handling skills off the public road and safety instruction, followed by a supervised ride on the road.

Since January 1 all L-plate must complete a CBT course before going on the road alone. Their CBT certificates expire after three years, 90 unless they complete a full motorcyde test within that period, they

have to start all over again. The DSA has written to 283.000 people registered as keepers of mopeds and motorcycles up to 125cc, the maximum allowed for learners, to warn them of the change. A new series of motorcycle categories for learners has also been introduced.

## **NEW RULES**

Written tests for car and motorcycle licences were intro-duced in July tast year and must now be taken before the practical tests. Since January 1, other changes to driving

 For motorcycles there are two new categories — light motorcycle (A1) restricting riders to a 125cc machine, and standard motorcycle (A) limit-ing riders to medium-sized

 Learner motorcyclists are no longer allowed to ride a machine of any size if it has a sidecar

Basic training must be un-dertaken before taking a motor-

 New car ficences will restrict drivers to vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes, a reduction from 7.5 tonnes, and vehicles with a maximum of eight passenger seats. They will not be valid for



Volvo has high hopes of the new \$40 touring car

ON YOUR marque Volvo unveiled its challenger for the 1997 British Touring Car Championship, at the Autosport International Show in Birmingham this week.

Volvo and its racing partner TWR are pinning high hopes on the newcomer, the \$40, after their 850 saloon came third overall in the the Volvo Car Corporation, manufacturers' title last says: "S40 racing marks the year, ahead of leading ristart of another new era." vals Renault and Vauxhall Drivers Rickard Rydell and Kelvin Burt were at Thursday's first public showing of the new race contender, which now begins a tough

schedule in Europe and

Britain in preparation for the first BTCC meeting at Donington on March 3L Last year, Rydell took third overall position in the drivers' championship in the 850. Volvo has competed in the BTCC since returning to international motorsport in 1994. Tuve Johannesson, president of

Autosport International 97 is the at National Exhibition Centre. Birmingham. until tomorrow. Tickets and information: 0121 767 4747.

them is given an oil-based additive which stops it from freezing. What with the snow and the slush, we have to wash our cars a lot and I've never known a frozer-up car wash. People here wouldn't stand for it."
I have not telephoned any Brit-

ish petrol companies to ask why we are supposed to stand for it because I am not interested in what they have to say. There may not be that many days when car washes are frozen but the point is that cars need to be especially visible in the sort of conditions that often cause them to be invisible. Salt, slush, snow and general muckiness in the air mean the car wash is more, not less, necessary at

this time of the year. Nor do I know anything about additives in water. What I do know is that Finland is a very cold. country a lot of the time and Britain is a fairly cold country some of the time. But I'll be damned if I'll drive to Helsinki to wash the car.

CLOSING DATE for our competition to give the Ford Ka a nickname is Monday. Post a card today to Name That Ka, Car 97. The Times, I. Pennington Street, London El 9XN. The winner gets a

temporery traffic lights on Bilston Road at the Canal

Bridge. ALS Walsall Road, Aldridge between Tyning Lage and Guicksand Lane; temporary traffic lights. O NORTH M6 between junction 25 Wigan and junction 27

speed limit. Nerrow lenes in both directions. construction on Oldham Road at junction with Hollinwood Avenue, known locally as the

Bickerstaffe; work at the junction with the M58, with single-lane traffic restrictions in both directions. A19 Bentley roadworks at the Bentley Road flood arches, A51 Wakefield Road, ourton. Roadworks bei the Jaw Bones and the roundabout at Stourton. A636 Denby Dale Road, Wakefield; roadworks close

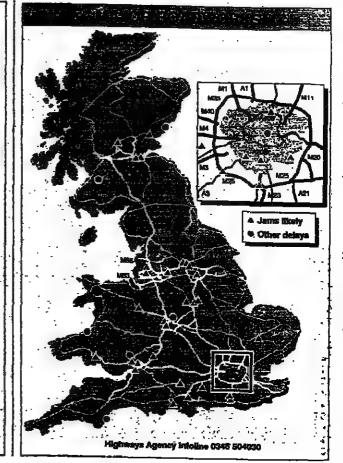
near the junction with inge\_....... M1 junction 47; readworks restrictions.

WALES Heath; narrow lanes sibound near the University Hospital. A482 Aberaeron; Upper Aberaeron Bridge on South Road closed. Diversions via Panteg Road and the A487. A470 north of Cefn Coed;

temporary lights on Brecon M4, junction 23a to junction 24; contraliow. M4 junctions 47-48; carriageway reduced to one lane in both directions. A472 Pontypool:contraflow tween Pontymoile and the Heron Roundabout. Expect lengthy delays.

SCOTLAND A937 Hillside, Montrose; roadworks and restrictions in M8 Edinburgh junction 2 Newbridge Spur (M9); major roadworks, with lane closures on the roundabout. AB Princes Street, Edinburgh; no motor vehicles as it is closed eastbound. Diversions via South Charlotte Street, Queen Street and York Place. A92 Tay Road Bridge:

maintenance work in place a the bridges. Also lane closures southbound. A76 Lockhill North to Ne Cumnock; temporary traffic lights in place.
A9 Greenloaning,
contraflow in place, 4 mile

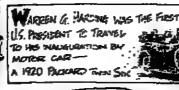


## AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans

THE THE 1959 LAUNCH OF THE MICHELOTII-SPACE TRUMPH HERALD. AN M.P ACKED WHETHER CAR MAKERS



PREFARING FOR THE 1956 CUBAN GRAND FROX, JUAN MANUSI FANGIO WAS KIDNAPPED BY FIDEL CASARO'S GUERRILAS





its first full production electric vehicle? Ford vice-president Ross Roberts says: "We want-

reliability, durability and with built-in safety that could also

being exerted by some US which is demanding that car-

makers sell a percentage of so-

Range and battery weight is still a problem, but GM's EVI,

Angeles, Phoenix and Tucson

a month ago, has already

achieved 76 sales with a fur-

ther 29 orders taken - exceeding supply from the factory in

The car is not cheap, at close

to £30,000. The buyer profile,

according to GM, tends to be

high earners, £80,000 a year

Honda is also entering the EV market in California with

its own new vehicle called the

EV Plus, also launched at last

week's Los Angeles Motor

he small hatchback is the first production

vanced nickel-metal

households".

called zero-emission vehicles.

offer 700ib of payload."

Britain launches the battery-driven super-sports car, while new entrants transform the American market

# New electrifying performers

## Lotus's Elise is a petrol beater

SAIL RUAY JANUS

given electrifying performance. A prototype electric Elise is due to show in America next month. motors producing 200bhp -70 per cent more power than the petrol-engined car, writes

It should reach 60mph in speed of at least 125mph. And if an owner wanted to trade range for performance, the 0-The electric Elise is the idea

of Zytek Automotive of Sutton Coldfield, who are now assem bling the prototype. Despite having to carry batteries to give it an average 150-mile range, it should weigh about the same as the standard 1.8litre, Il8bhp car and have the ride and handling.

road-ready electric supercar No one has ever built a before, the driving experience will be quite astonishing," promises Zytek's director, Bill Gibson. Zytek is working in collaboration with Lotus, taking care of all electronic devbility of Lotus. The Midlands electric motors for the Chrysler Intrepid ESX hybrid concept vehicle. But how can an electric

Sales of the sales

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SCAPPL CORPORE -

Elise, lugging batteries around, really handle as well as the original? It is all down to Zytek's lightweight electric motors, weighing in at 13kg pany, provide the highest powelectric motor vehicle available today. There is only one moving part — the rotor — and the only sliding parts are the pearings, it provides maximum torque from zero speed, 441: 2005 eliminating the need for a conventional gearbox. The motors will be positioned where the car's mid-engine

would normally fit. The motors and the 300-volt nickel cadmium type betteries use aerospace technology. The batteries replace the fuel tank and are placed at the front of the car, just ahead of the he will scuttle. Zytek believe this will give the electric Elise similar balance to the original and weight close to the standard car's very light 723kg.

Zytek plans to show the car ment mandate. at the Society of Automotive Engineers' International Congress and Exposition which 400



Claimed power for the electric Elise is 70 per cent more than the petrol-driven model and the handling is as good. Batteries not included, though: you may have to lease them



Ford's Ranger EV is an electric version of the world's most popular single vehicle

mainly motor industry spe-cialists from across the world.

There has been nothing else quite like this. It is a serious project, not just a oneoff for publicity. The Elise is an exceptional car in standard form and we realised it would be a perfect vehicle to accept our lightweight, electric vehi-

Gibson adds: "The standard car does not need power steering or power brakes, both areas where additional conversion work would have been required. The vehicle structure is unchanged from the standard Elise, and Zytek is engineering the entire conversion. Our aim is to make electric vehicles desirable, not just necessary through govern-

"The Elise forms an ideal testbed for high-performance electric vehicle technology but, depending on response from its exposure in Detroit, we

believe it would be suitable for low volume production."

The big question, though, is how much the production electric Elise would cost. Generai Motors' EVI electric car costs about the same as much larger fully equipped petrol-engined Cadillac. GM has eased this problem by leasing the EVI. Gibson be lieves a production electric Elise could be sold for the same price as a petrol-engined model but would be supplied without batteries. These might be leased annually, the price possibly comparing with a typical petrol bill for an average year's driving. But the detailed economics have yet to

This is a radical departure for the British motor industry. We are working in collaboration with Lotus and expect to have development vehicles travelling very quickly — and quietly — around their test

be worked out.

## Now Ford joins the charge in **America**

Tord is following General Motors into full electric-vehicle production with a typical American pick-up, Chris Wright.

Pick-ups are big business in the US and Ford sold a staggering 780,000 versions of its F-series "truck" last year, making it the most popular single vehicle on the planet. Now the company hopes an electric version will help preserve the planet.

Called the Ranger, it was unveiled at the Los Angeles motor show this week and



GM's EVI is already seeing demand outstrip supply, though buying costs are high



Honda plans to lease 300 of its EVs in California, despite their slow acceleration

year. It will be launched into the southern states to compete with GM's EVI electric car, which is already seeing de-

mand outstrip supply. The Ford Ranger EV has 15 years' worth of electric vehicle research packed into it. John

goes into production later this alternative fuel vehicles programme, says: "From our experience with advanced batteries we have developed the most sophisticated batterymanagement system available. The bottom line is that with the Ranger EV there is a very high level of reliability

90bhp and its liquid-cooled motor is governed to a maximum speed of 75mph to preserve a 58-mile driving range. An acceleration time to 50mph of 12.5 seconds is only half a second off that of the petrol-

powered pickup. So why choose a pick-up as

hvoride batteries, and it will be leased to private customers for \$499 a month — around £300. However, they first have to pay out around £2,000 for charging the batteries. To buy the car would again cost more than £30,000.

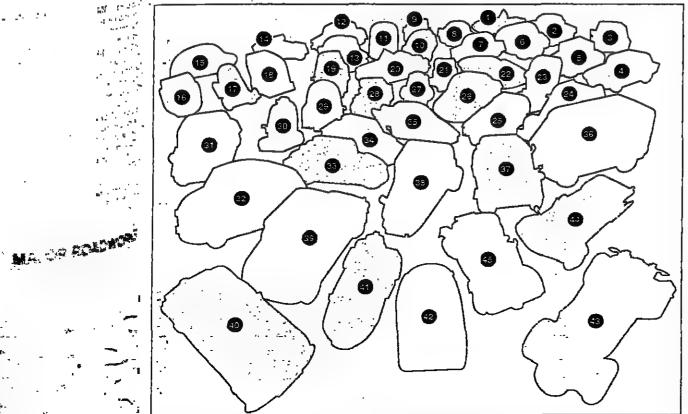
Tom Elliott, executive vice president for American Honda, says: "By designing the EV Plus to use advanced battery technology with seat ing for four and a versatile cargo area, our goal is to

day transport. Honda plans to lease out around 300 of the vehicles with delivery starting in May. pedestrian 17.7 seconds although it has a claimed top speed of over 80mph. Driving

Electric vehicle expert Alar Coconi believes there is plent of fun to be had with electric vehicles and has proved it with his T-Zero two-seater sportscar. His company, AC Propulsion, wowed the media at the Los Angeles Motor Show by showing how the car could outdrag a Chevrolet Corvette and return a better driving range than the EVI.

Coconi knows a thing or two about EVs, he was one of the original development team for the impact concept vehicle, the forerunner to EVI, and his company produces electricdrive systems already used by a number of carmakers.

Coconi is now looking for a partner to help put the car into production in small numbers. He is aiming at around 300 cars priced at around £60,000.



1 Berkeley B-90 (1958) I 2 A.C.M.A Vespa 400 (1958) 3 Zundapp Janus 250 (1958) 4 Berkeley B-90 (1959) 5 P. Vallee Chantecler (1957) 6 King S-7 (1959) 7 A.E.M.S. Inter Berline (1955)

8 Isard TS 400 Coupé (1959) 9 King Midget (1987) 10 Heinkel Kabine 154 (1957) 11 Fiat 600 Multipla (1957) 12 NSU Prinz IIE (1960) 13 Mikrus MR 300 (1959) 14 Berkeley T-60 (1962) 15 Fuldamobil N-1 (1955) 16 Reliant Regal MK1 (1953)

## MEN TO BUBBLES

19 Bond Bug (1973) 20 Rovin D4 (1951) 21 Mochet Velocar CM-125 (1951) 22 Spatz (1956) 23 Mochet Velocar CM-125 Commerciale (1953) 24 Flat 500 Topolino (1938)

25 Mochet Velocar CM-125 Grand

Luxe (1954) 26 Victoria 250 (1956) 27 Messerschmitt KR-175 (1954) 28 Kleinschnitterger F-125 (1952) 29 Trojan 200 (1962) 30 Messerschmitt KR-200 Sport (1961)

31 BMW leetta 600 (1959) 32 Fuldamobil N-1 (1951) 33 Messerschmitt KR-200 (1959) 34 Messerschmitt KR-200 Bubble Top (1961) 35 FMR Tg 500 Tiger (1960) 36 Goggomobil TL 400 Transporter

38 Bond Minicar MK B (1952) 39 Goggomobil T 400 Limousine 40 Kleinschnitterger F-125 (1954) 41 Rollera (1958) 42 Peel Trident (1964) 43 FMR Tg 500 Tiger Cabriclet (1960) 44 Messerschmitt KR-201 (1958)

37 BMW Isetta 300 (1957)

45 Rolux Baby VB 60 (1949)

perfect specimen of the rare FMR known to change hands for £20,000 Peter Svilans, the mechanic who carried out much of Weiner's

Continued from page i

restoration work says: "This car, used for continental touring, added an unexpected new angle to microcar collecting. These cars are really a blast to drive. Direct steering, adjustable Formula One type rear suspension, twice the power of a Messerschmitt 200 and phenomenal handling and cornering, give a truly thrilling experience unlike any other vehicle." None of the cars in the Weiner

collection is in anything but excellent condition. Bruce insisted that they should all be restored down to the last nut and bolt and should all be driveable. Some have had up to \$60,000 spent on them. "I don't think I'll get back all the money I've spent on them, but it's been such tremendous fun collecting them." says Bruce.

Peter, who worked on sportscars before specialising in microcars, says: "In North America these are looked on largely as a novelty. People driving by in their big Cadillacs just stare or laugh.

But they are fascinating bits of engineering. They each have their own virtues. The Tiger is the best drive. It's just like a go-kart. They reflect national characteristics. The German ones are generally wellengineered. Some of the French ones have very poor handling but such a lot of charm. The British Bond was pretty klunky looking

but very practical," says Peter. "Some of the cars were extremely difficult to restore because only a handful were made of many of them and only about half have any sort of sales literature dating from when they were made. The Goggornobil Transporter was the most difficult because it was such a



Bruce Weiner in a Kleinschnitterger F-125: "I don't think I'll get back all the money I've spent."

wreck, really derelict and ready for their attentions from aircraft to scrapping. We just had to make a lot of the parts."

The fascination of microcars stems from the way in which they reflect their time. Most were made in Germany and that is the centre of enthusiasm. The world's largest collection is at a museum in Story near Frankfurt, more than 150 microcars fill the buildings around a loth-century courtyard. When the cars first appeared in the 1950s many of them bore the names of makers who less than a decade earlier had struck a chill through Brirish hearts, Messerschmitt. Heinkel and BMW had turned

providing basic transport for a nation in the throes of reconstruction.

Many of them were made under licence, the Heinkel in Ireland, for example. Others came from Italy and France while some of the wackiest were made in Britain, the weird frog-eyed Bond Bug and the

sporty, three-wheeled Berkeleys. The simplicity and skill of the engineering which went into their design has accumulated a cult following. Stirling Moss still drives his Isetta occasionally around London and other loyal users keep the flame alive. Another of the large

collections is to be found in a barn in Kent, carefully guarded by Jean and Edwin Hammond who run the Register of Unusual Microcars.

The historic town of Marburg hosts an annual gathering of the Messerschmitt club of Germany, and there is a national microcar rally in Britain each year.

The Bruce Weiner collection and related Automobilia will be sold by Christie's at Jack Barclay's showroom, Vauchall. London on March 6, two days after the company's collectors' cars auction there. Information and catalogues 0171-839 9060

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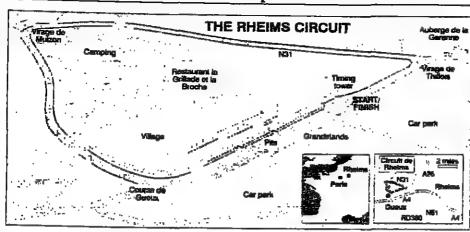
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The famous French racetrack's glory days are set to

be recreated this summer, reports Eve-Ann Prentice



prix were held at Rheims that Damon Hill remembers the circuit for driving his pedal-car there.

The current Formula One world champion was pictured at the circuit alongside his father Graham, who held the track's lap record in 1962.

Now, nearly 30 years after the last grand prix was held at the track in the heart of Champagne country, the circuit's glory days are to be recreated. Stirling Moss will join other motorsport legends at the grand-prix and 12-hour weekend of July,
Between 1925 and 1969 the

Rheims circuit at Gueux-en-Champagne became one of the fastest in Europe. Damon Hill says: "What I find amazine is that my father, who built half of his reputation on the curvy roads of Monaco, was just as comfortable on the long straights of Rheims.

This year's recreation of the



Scenes from Rheims, from left: the start line at the narrow-looking track; Harry Schell at the 1951 French GP in his Maserati, and Richard Pillkington in a 1938 Talbot Lago

Rheims will take place on July 5-6 and be strictly a one-off event. The organisers, the Automobile Club of Champagne-Ardenne and Promocourse International, have won permission from the French government to close the main Route Nationale 31, which forms one side of the eight kilometre (five mile) cir-

British motorsports enthusiasts have made Rheims a place of pilgrimage in the decades since races ceased to be held there and the good news for them is that entrance to next year's event will be free. Trisha Pilkington, who runs

the Tops Enthusiasts Club based near Dartmouth in Devon, has been assigned the task of finding British cars and

drivers to take part. "Stirling Moss will be there, Tony Brooks and Roy Salvadori." she says. "We have rounded up about 40 so far including six former Rheims winners. Ken Wharton and Peter Whitehead who had the first win in a Jaguar D-Type in

1954 will be there." Pilkington has just returned from a visit to Rheims and she

grandstands to ensure they are fit for public use." Between

adds: "Restoration of the old pits and grandstand is already well in hand. Many trees have been removed which were growing up through the buildings and structural checks have been carried out on the

40,000 and 80,000 people are expected at the event.

centre of motoring history since the start of the century: five key factories opened there. including Brasier and Ger-

Graham Hill and son Damon line up on the grid at Rheims in the Sixties. Hill senior broke the track record in 1962 on the long French straights

The racing circuit largely owes its existence to one man, Raymond "Toto" Roche, who began dreaming of a racetrack using public roads in 1923, when Rheims was still recovering from the ravages of the Great War. After Roche retired in 1967, the Rheims circuit only survived for two more years.

Rheims holds a special place in French history as the cuthedral city where most French kings were crowned, where the German army surrendered on May 7 1945, and as the capital of the Champagne region. The irony is that alcohol advertising is strictly banned at French motorsports events - even though generations of champions have sprayed gallons of the stuff in celebration.

Next year's re-enaument of Rheims's heady days will be almost non-stop, lasting from Sum on the Saturday morning until 7pm on the Sunday with just seven hours' respite be riveen 2am and 9am on the Sunday. The timetable includes recreations of pre and postwar Formula One. Two and Three races, and the famous Rheims 12 Hours. There will be demonstrations by touring cars. GTs and single-seaters.

They are not allowed to have out-and-out races because the pits are within a couple of feet of the track but there will be no lack of speed - people don't half go for it." says Pilkington.

Anyone wishing to contact Trisha Filkington should tele-phone 01803 722357.

## **Helen Mound** on the Dutch women Citroën racers



# Playboy girls' thrilling laps

THE CONTEST'S name suggests gorgeous women modelling on the bonnets of racing cars, promoting that doyen of men's magazines, Playboy. But these aren't your usual doe-eyed centrefold babes. they're Dutch racing drivers competing for the hotly pursued Citroen Saxo Cup.

Driving at speeds up to 127mph against 23 other racing drivers, these women are beating the men at their own game, despite many of them never having driven a race car until last year. Out of a national line-up of 24 drivers. Holland has eight female entrants, and they have their own women's championship. known as the Citroen Saxo Playboy Cup.

In the 1996 Europe-wide Citroën Saxo Championship there were 220 entrants competing in seven national series; Holland, France, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Switzerland When Germany joins the Championships for the 1997 season the number of competitors will rise to 300. But it's Holland that has the greatest proportion of female entrants. Only the liberal-minded Dutch would consider holding a female championship

東洋

as politically incorrect as

layboy. Single-marque championships are commonplace in the UK; manufacturers such as Honda, Peugeot, Renault. TVR, Volkswagen and Westfield regularly sell their cars to enthusiasts who race against each other. But for now, Citroën UK has no plans to introduce the Saxo Cham-

pionships in Britain. The Saxo race car is very different from other singlemarque race cars, because Citroen spent more than six months developing it for its very specific task. Most car manufacturers produce basicstripped-out versions of their road cars and leave the customers to develop them into

tuned racing machines. The French company went to great lengths to produce a racer so close to an optimum specification that there's very little customers can do to improve it. Normally in racing, the more money you spend the better the car you have, and the greater your chance of winning. But by giving everyone the best possible car from the outset. Citroen has ensured that winning relies on the driver's

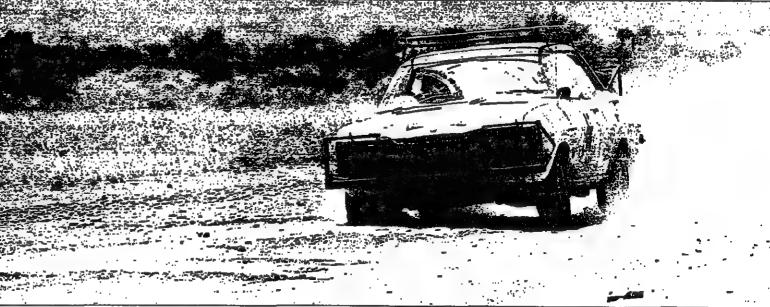
for the Saxo Playboy Cup have the potential for big budgets, Ingeborg Wieten is Holland's top television soap actress. But others are secre taries and even students with limited funds.

TO COMPETE in a full season of the Saxo Championship, Dutch entrants need around £10,000 to £15,000 to cover running costs, and the car costs another £11.000: in motorsport terms this is considered cheap.

One thing the Playboy racers do have in common is youth. To ensure a competitive edge, Citroën introduced a 35-year age limit, which means older, more experienced, racing drivers don't spoil the youngsters' fun.

The result is a truly exciting racing series. The action is so close that the time separating the winners from the losers across the finish line is often less than two seconds, and the top ten are usually split by tenths of a second. Compare that with Formula One, where the winner can often be several laps ahead of the lastpiace man.

## Calling all classic car adventurers. It's the century's last London to Sydney rally



Chris Woodley's three-litre Vauxhall Ventora roars through Turkey in 1968. The organisers are keeping to the original route as far as possible

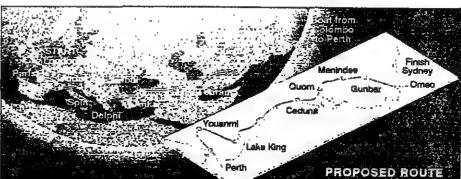
Nower Bridge, one of the London Marathon, is to be the starting point for another sporting odyssey next year — but it is one that spans 10,000 miles, writes Eve-Ann Prentice.

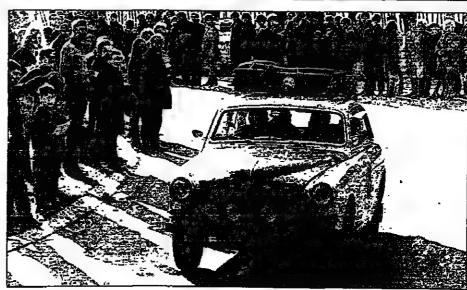
Plans were unveiled this week for a London to Sydney classic car rally starting in November 1998. The event, for up to 75 cars, will mark the 30th anniversary of the 1968 event and is likely to be the last great trans-continental epic of

the century The Classic Rally Association, which is organising the run, says it is aimed at cars which were in production before 1908. Porsche 911s andd Ford Escorts are unlikely to find favour with the organisers, who want to place an emphasis on older cars." said a spokesman. However. classes for 1.4-litre hatchbacks and modern diesels are also

being considered. The course, across Europe and Asia to India, by sea or air to Perth in Western Australia and then through the midsummer heat of the Antipodes to Sydney, is closely based on the 1968 route, One key change is that war-stricken Afghanistan is bypassed, with entrants crossing the North West Passage region of Pakistan into

Travelling from one side of the world to the other means that politically sensitive areas cannot be avoided altogether. The rally is planned to travel into Iran, were women entrants will be expected to cover their legs and wear a headscarf.





John La Trobe and Bill Chesson's Volvo leaves Crystal Palace on the first rally

"Some Americans were very uneasy about Iran, but provided they don't emblazon themselves with the Stars and Stripes and go drinking, there shouldn't be a problem." says Peter Browning of the Classic Rally Association. "We have

found friendly co-operation from all the countries we intend to pass through."

The organisers are investigating a choice of route to Istanbul, the favourite being a possible reopening of the dramatic Dalmatian coastal high-

way in the former Yugoslav republic of Croatia and Montenegro — the course driven by the second London to Sydney rally in 1977.

The marathon is planned to continue across Greece and Turkey before entering Iran.

and mads en route have changed little since the 1960s. Once in India, entrants will be airlifted to Perth or shipped by roll-on, roll-off ferry from Columbo in Sri Lanka.

Philip Young, who heads the organising team, has also masterminded this September's Peking to Paris Motor Challenge. Young has recently driven from India in a Peugeuor 504 bought from the classified pages of Classic Car Weekly for £1,200. He considers slightly older Peugent 404s. Triumph 2000s. Austin 1800k, Rover 3-litres, MGBs and Citroens all "budget front-

ntrance lees have not yet been fixed but Young hopes to keep it to around 15,000 to enable as many people as possible to consider entering. There are no special stages "or anything that smacks of modern motor sport", he says

The 1908 event was won by Andrew Cowan, Colin Malkin and Brian Coyle in a 100horsepower Hillman Hunter. just pipping the BMC "Landcrab" Austin 1800 driven by Paddy Hopkirk, Alec

Poole and Tony Nash. More than 80,000 people watched the start of the 1908 rally at Crystal Palace in London Next year's event. with time controls and checkpoints intended to recreate the original style and flavour. aims to "attract adventurers who enjoy driving classic machines, with the camaraderie that springs from conquering

long distances with fellow

enthusiasts ". says Young.

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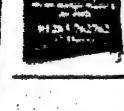
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## Ford's Mondeo: luxury a world apart

UNLIKE THE darts I have thrown in years gone by, or wielded. Ford's Mondeo goes exactly where you point it, writes Eve-Ann Prentice.

"Oh. you be careful, it is very powerful," friends and colleagues said as I took over the car for two glorious weeks. most knowing I am more used to tottering elderly Hyundai Ponys and VW Beetles than showroom sparkly power-machines with just a couple of hundred miles on the clock. They were right to worry; the Mondeo X's acceleration

projected me quicker than I expected towards the end of a line of cars waiting at traffic lights. But that lesson learned, the Mondeo felt like the safest car I have ever driven - not least because of its ability to surge ahead.
Old Street roundahout in

rush-hour central London, for instance, is not known for tolerant road-users; traffic builds up behind you at an astonishing rate unless you into the circulating

mayhem. What a blissful difference the Mondeo Ghia X's powerful 2.5 litre engine makes, when you can safely move out without feeling that even a beat-up old taxi is going to outpace you. But just as im-

portant is the car's precision: combines the surefootedness of a mountain goat with the elegant musclepower of a racehorse. The sharp dip in tempera-

tures also proved an ideal testing ground for the Mondeo. Heated front seats are a gorgeous luxury on frostmornings. Traction control means that even slush. ice and grit fail to loosen the Mondeo's grip. It uses the ABS sensors to monitor the speed of all road wheels. As soon as a driven wheel begins ment, bonding, bags of nails,

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HONDA NSX



to spin, the system reduces the torque of the engine by closing the throttle and, at low speeds. applies the brake to the spin ning wheel. When activated, you feel a very slight kick followed by hard resistance in the accelerator pedal.

Combine its light man-ocuvrability with the psychological 'Friends comfort of dual airbags and prewarned tensioner seatbelts. the palpable case of a driving seat which is electronime about cally positioned to the car's lect driving pospower? ture, and you have

a car which is stupendously relaxing to drive in town, country and on the motorway. As you would expect with a luxury car, there are loads of added extras to make life that

little bit less arduous, from the CD player and audio system with remote control attached to the steering column, to the enormously roomy luggage compartment. My poorly aimed paintbrush is just a tiny symptom of a megarestoration at home. My poor Hyundai has been struggling with sacks of sand and ce-

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nuts and bolts, and gallons of paint. At times, it has looked pitifully near overloading. Yet the Mondeo managed to

cope with two heavy loads of building materials in the boot without seeming to drop a millimeter on its haunches. Nothing, alas, is perfect and

the slight quibble I have might seem churlish, had it not led to moment of consternation. Driving along a slip-road from a trading estate after yet another building-supplies binge, I checked the rear and side-view mirrors, indicated and, seeing a coach in the from what seemed some distance away, pulled out ahead of it. An angry honking and my own glance in the rearview mirror let me know that the coach had not been as far behind as the side mirrors had seemingly shown.

It was only later that I found the following exhortation in a "quick guide" to the Mondeo tucked in the glove compartment: "Exerior mirrors — Convex mirrors minimise the so-called blind spot at the rear quarter of the vehicle. Objects seen in the mirror, however, will appear smaller and further away than they actually are. Bear this in mind when

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OH Persons 928 S4 GT Acto Whitel the Hother, Mr Cha. Scarced, Mansive Spac, 44,000 Billes. Barquia, 21,995. Tel-01423 200230 asytime.T

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JAGUAR

No offers or time

George Bennett, editor in

pean countries.

my, safety and comfort as three areas which had impressed judges. The lorry appeared on UK roads this

■ DAEWOO HAS become the first carmaker in Britain to offer three years' free insurance, on its new Nexia and Espero models. Standard excess of £150 applies for most and there are standard exclusions for those with drink-drive



in the rocket-performance class, but certainly adds a bit of pep and vim to the normally staid world of family saloon motoring

MITSURISHI GALANT (1984-1993)

The Galant made its innovative name on all fours, its four-wheel-drive format coupled to highly unusual four-wheel steering. That name was underscored by the car's phenomenal rallying and motorsport successes. The first generation was launched in 1984 with 1.6 and 2-fire petrol and 1.8-filtre turbodiesel. Available as four-door saloon or five-door hatch, the 4WD/AWS GT was launched in 1989. New Galant burstend in 1989. New Galant by successing the 1999.

Cars fitted with the Diamond Option Pack, offering at sorts of functi electric windows, are worth seeking out. As well as the GTI 18-valve car, which offers smoo

end steering pump k ominous fluid drips. The 4WD/4V cars are technic on those fitted with the electronically controlled suspension, this can be reflect

GTi costs a 55-year-old profess male or female, living in Winche

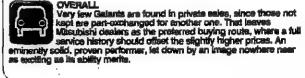
Galants were never sold in big numbers a are relatively scarce. Mitsubishi owners kee

USED CAR BRIEF

The four-wheel-drive/ four-wheel-steer care in particular give much improved wheel grip on the road, as well as enhanced stability at speed when comering, chunging lenes and overteining.



Expect to pay around \$1,000 for a very early Galant saloon. Pay \$2,225 for a 1988 E-re Galant 1800 GLS four-door salo C4,000 for a 1991 H-reg 2-fire GLSI five-door hatchback, £7,000 for a 1983 K-reg 2-fire GTI 16-valve 4WD selcon, and £7,400 for a 1993 K-reg 2-fire GTI 18v 4WD/4WS.





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## What the juice? How forecourt confusion can make you feel a stranded four-star fool

TIE DE à receipt

One mistake

cost Susan

Brown a

wrecked day and a good

deal of money

about 300 yards from the garage. It had been coasting as if I had run out of petrol; odd. because I had just

I spent some time pressing the accelerator to coax the newly purchased petrol through the system. The more I did it, the less enthusiastic the engine sounded. Eventually it felt as though only the ignition was co-operating.

I gave up, worried about the battery. Six years in this Volvo without major incident, I thought, and this is the day it all ends. This conviction was strengthened by the smell from the car. I was blocking one of the two lanes on a main London artery. It was 3pm.

It was only now that a connection between this trouble and my recent visit to the garage occurred to me. Had I put in the wrong octane? I fished out the till receipt. It said: DERV £35.64.

Derv? Not petrol? I had passed into a nether region, a place I'd heard about dimiy but had never visited. A puncture or a flat battery can elicit sympathy. This was just horribly stupid.

The plans for the day flashed in front of me. My daughter's return from school at 4.30pm. The invitation to rea at 4.45pm. The evening out at 6.30. The absence of a mobile phone. The thin clothing I but on the warning lights, locked the car and trudged back to the garage.

The just filled up with Derv by mistake. What do I do?"

The attendant shook his head. This is going to cost you a lot of money."

I rang the AA. A woman said: "You'll need to get the tank pumped out. If you go to an AA depot it'll cost about £30. If we tow you to a garage it'll cost more than £85." I plumped for the depot. As I

was a woman on my own. someone would be there as quickly as possible, she said. I cancelled my arrangements and went back to the car.

After an hour and a quarter I rang again. "We've been trying to contact you." said a man. I didn't ask how. "One of our contractors is going to take you back to a garage in SWIS and then they'll charge you. It'll be about £85 and then there if he a charge for disposing of the fuel."

"I want to go to an AA depot". I said. "I was told that would cost £30". "Who told you that?"



Susan Brown thought her Volvo's life was ended when it ground to a smelly halt

"The first person I spoke to". contractor".

Faced with this arcane world of depots and contractors and pumping out I grew

"Look", I said, "I don't know anything about all this. I just want to go to a depot because it's **Punctures** 

cheaper". supervisor". À man came on

the line who had been specially trained to talk to hysterics who had just filled up with derv. He did not know where the £30 figure had

come from. In fact the depot would cost £70. Challenged, he agreed that the contractor's bill was likely to be well over

" I want to go to the depot". I chanted.

"I'm going to put you on hold. Bear with me." He disappeared. I bore with him for a good ten minutes. When he came back he was speaking even more slowly and gently. "We're going to take you to the

AA depot. In Weybridge. Well, you can't go to the One of our contractors is said they had four or five cases coming out to you now with a a day, but that wasn't enough towaway vehicle".

My contractor arrived a little ahead of schedule. On the way to Weybridge he agreed that not wearing the AA uniform did sometimes pose a problem. Once he had been

elicit

sympathy.

This was

called out at Zam to help a woman whose car's electrics had failed on a remote road. She had just managed to give the AA her whereabouts when her mobile phone batteries ran out. When he arrived

just stupid' she assumed he had come to murder her. It took him an hour to persuade her to open her window wide enough to take his mobile phone and

check his bona fides. the reception Weybridge we discussed costs. It emerged that AA policy had changed at the beginning of December. Previously, sorting out what I had done was considered a normal call-out. Now, it was the driver's fault. and the depot was required to pass on its costs to me.

The mechanic in reception nationally to justify changing the nozzle shape of diese pumps. Most petrol engines. he said, would suffer no longterm damage, but putting petrol in a diesel engine could

wreck it. It was cold. There was a handful of tattered magazines. i waited an hour and a half. No one told me what was happening. The same man came out and said they couldn't get it started: "This happens sometimes." Finally, merciffuly, it did

start. We completed the paperwork. They charged £10 for a bit of petrol to get the car to a garage and £70 for the repair. Then it cost another £35 to refill the tank. I now belong to the secret

brotherhood of people who have contaminated their fuel tanks. I arrived home six and a half hours later than intended, to face my family's derision. Getting the pumps wrong is very expensive: it takes a very long time: it can destroy your engine and (I'm told by friends) your relationship. And everyone thinks you're a



**Pat Prentice** fell victim to a badly signed

forecourt, but discovered he

wasn't alone

Tergie, an old grey die-sel, was the first vehlde I ever drove on my own, at the age of eight. By the time I was 15, I had managed combines, cars, motorbikes and vans and even an old Jowett truck with

a crash gearbox. It was Lincoinshire and the policeman rode a pushbike and lived in the next village. Stubble field or road, it made

no difference.

I had also mixed fuel for my model aircraft engines. In those days, amyl nitrate was something you popped 3 per cent of into the little tank to make your 3cc PAW Combat Special a bit zippier. I knew the difference be-tween paraffin, petrol and the agricultural and commercial varieties.

Since then I have driven snow scooters in Iceland, catamarans off Queensland, spud spinners near Spalding and aircraft in Africa. I have even instructed a museum curator on handling a horse-drawn

So how, after all this time, did I find myself sitting in the middle of London in my newly acquired diesel Land Rover Discovery with the increasingly embarrassing feeling that three days earlier had contrived to fill it to the brim with petrol?

And how was it that even after my discreetly mirthful mechanic had arrived and confirmed my suspicions, did still feel so certain that I couldn't be entirely that stupid? In the ensuing hours, I manfully shrugged and faced the ridicule. I knew as I left the pub that night that the final long burst of laughter as I closed the door was for me. And yet I knew I had

checked the pump. It bothered me for quite a while as I ran my newly emptied and then refilled tank

Then the moment came I drove back to the filling station in East Greenwich

and got a surprise There was the diesel pump just as I remembered. It said: "Diesel" in big letters and was set apart from the

the pub

at me'

petrol pumps. I checked again. Beside it was a smaller sign also saying diesel, and one saying four star. Surely, this was was aimed sel . I had read

about in my

munumit

The manager was on the forecourt taking delivery of petrol in a tanker. I called him

out of this pump?" "Diesel" he assured me.

"No" I said. "Petrol". He looked quizzical, then puzzled. He scrutinised the labels on the pump. "Ah. No." Er ... This one's petrol. This side, on the right. That is diesel, and there is more diesel on the other side ....

by the AA to empty and clean a tank filled with the wrong fuel is an example of the increasing cost of call-outs faced by the motoring organisations, It also reflects the fast-growing number

The RAC says that regular maintenance could prevent half the three million calls attended each year. I from those who use

Now it is to introduce a no-claime breakdown bonus for members who go a . needing roadside oe. It will be evallable to members who pay higher level subscriptions for services Recovery and Reflex

 Under the scheme. 13 to 22 per cent will be offered to members who are fortunate or careful enough to avoid a cali-out. A pilot scheme le being introduced for 18,000 existing members who will be offered a £25 discount when they come to renew their subscriptions.

A spokesman said: The majority of RAC members take great care to ensure that their cars are properly serviced and well lo after. We went to

There ... " He did not sound spontaneous. But I was, as I harshly advised him to label had to confront my folly. I the different pumps more

clearly. I left to fill up elsewhere. With hindsight, and goodwill, I can see that there was room for error on both sides. I may still be the biggest bone-

head in motoring. Yet nowhere did The long the pump say Petrol". For the next few laughter in

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days I began to feel a little vindicated. I pass the filling station regularly. don't intend to go back. A few days later, I glanced at the diesel pump. There was a

woman just about to fill up her diesel Discovery. bumped to a halt and shouted. She looked startled as 1 jumped out and crossed the road towards her.

Then I explained breathlessly: "Not that one. It's petrol. The diesel's on the other side. The nozzle next to it." Her reply was better than gratitude. "Oh. Thanks," she said, turning a bit red in the face. "Confusing, isn't it?"

## Three light years to hit 100mpg - Vaughan Freeman on how VW will

seek a Holy Grail in the Dead Sea he 100mpg car will be on our roads within three years, says VW. thanks in large part to a

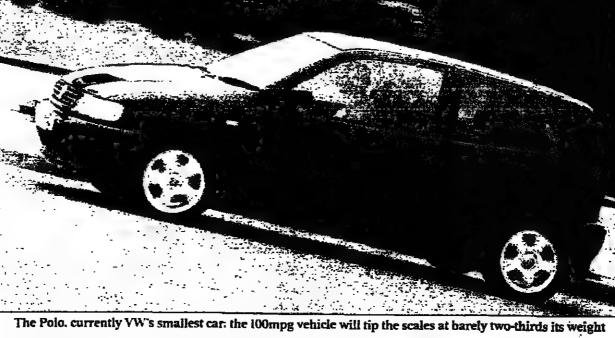
would put even the Nigel Lawson diet plan to shame. The secret ingredient of the super-light and super-frugal mini VW of the very near future is magnesium, a fraction the weight of steel, and which from early next year VW will be extracting in huge

weight-saving regime that

amounts from the mineralclogged Dead Sea. At one time, every manufacrurer sought to include in its model range a car that would reach 100mph. Doing the "ton" is now old hat, illegal and politically incorrect. It is the mass-built car that can achieve 100mpg, in everyday conditions and driven by the

average motorist rather than a feather-footed expert, that is the modern motoring Holy Grail. Such a vehicle would offer the manufacturer enormous prestige, and represent a quantum leap to make motoring more environmentallyfriendly, not only because the car would consume less fuel. but also exhaust emissions would be cut at a stroke.

VW is not the only carmaker homing in on the 100mpg target. Ford has just unveiled a radical concept version of its Ka, the Ka Step One, which weighs 610 kilos (just over half a ton). Ford has turned to carbon fibre mouldings, very light, strong but too expensive and complex to employ for a volume production run. The Step One may be a one-off for now, but the company says it



has achieved 90mpg under

strict test conditions. VW got its lingers burned with its Goif Ecomatic, production of which has now ceased, and which was based on the diesel Golf The Ecomatic saved fuel by automatically turning off its engine when the car was stopped, for instance at traffic lights, then

pressed the accelerator. But the idea never caught on, not least because motorists were not prepared to pay the extra 5800 over and above the cost of a regular Golf TDi, however green" it was.

So VW's 100mpg car will sell for around £8,000, with highly expensive lightweight composites shunned in favour of tried

alternatives that are amenable to mass car construction. Dietrich Meyerdierks, head

of the VW Environment and Transportation Department. says: "We want to be the first manulacturer to offer a high quality 100mpg car, and we are quite confident that we can do it before the end of the century. We can definitely say that it will be a five-seat vehicle. We will not accept any compromise in terms of safety. It will be smaller than the current Polo, not cheap, but competitive."

It will be capable of just over 80mph, and with a somewhat leisurely 0-60mph time of justunder 20 seconds, but as well as passengers (four in comfort and five at a squeeze) it will be able to carry some luggage.

started by cutting vast amounts of weight. Unlike Ford, rather than relying on pricey and technically complex carbon fibres, the weight savings are coming by the use of aluminium for the chassis, as has been tried and tested in the Audi A8 (built by VW's luxury carmaking arm), and magnesium. As a result the 100mpg car will tip the scales at barely two-thirds the weight of its current smallest car, the Polo.

true? Like Ford, VW has

. Magnesium will be used for the gearbox casings, which will save 4.5 kilos compared to the usual iron version. Magnesium was used to save back-end weight on the VW Beetle with its rear-mounted engine and gearbox, but the alloys then used were prone to corrosion and magnesium was expensive. Now VW claims the magnesium being refined at its plant on the Dead Sea is much purer, less prone to deterioration, and by entering a joint venture partnership in

against fluctuations in price. Aluminium, which strength for strength is up to 40 per cent. lighter than steel, will also play an important role without any loss of crash protection. Plastics too will be used where possible rather than glass. By using plastic composites in the headlights, VW have cut the weight by two kilos. But humble steel is not dead

its production hopes to guard

How will the dream come yet. New technologies will use thinner sheets of steel sandwiched together, offering greater strength and rigidity, but which will be between 10 and 15 per cent lighter than conventional steel car sections.

aking the car more aking the car more aerodynamically slippery means the new VW will have a fluid. streamlined shape, reducing air resistance by 20 per cent brings a 10 per cent fuel saving at motorway speeds.

It is not just about saving weight, however. The car will have a super efficient direct injection diesel engine, and probably a six-speed gearbox so that motorway speeds can be achieved in top gear with the engine running at extremely low revs to minimise fuel consumption.

Nothing will be left to chance, and even the tyres will be specially designed to cut rolling resistance and get the most out of each gallon. The "miser tyres", using special tread patterns and newlydeveloped rubber compounds, will cut rolling resistance by 40 per cent, resulting in a 7 per cent fuel saving.

Over recent years cars have become increasingly absternious. In 1978 the average small family car consumed around 28mpg. A decade fater that was 35mpg, and now it is 40mpg. By 2005 the overall average should be 47mpg.

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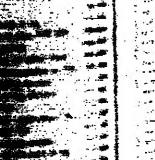
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## It's the time of the signs

MOTORISTS TAKE them for granted now at every turn and twist of the road. Most of us never give them a second thought, except in the very rare event that they are wrong. But this month, the AA is celebrating the 90th anniversary of Britain's first directional road sign, a modest circular wooden affair put up in Hatfield, Hertfordshire,

Alan Copps writes.
Those first signs were put up on the approaches to towns and villages, and simply gave the name and the mileage to the nearest place of any size. On the roads of 1907, with garages were an invaluable guide to pioneer drivers.

Most were removed during the Second World War but more than a hundred are known to survive. They were the first product of AA Signs, the organisation still responsible for the familiar yellow signs that point motorists to events from a village festival to Wimble-

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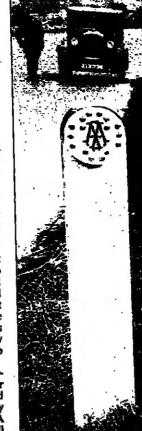
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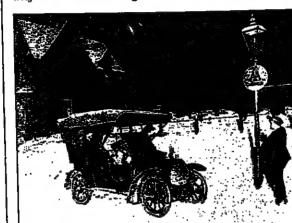
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don or Euro 96. From the safety point of view, a more important pioneering effort was probably the reflective sign,



Early reflective sign

embedded in a wooden post to warn of sharp corners. These led to the standard road warnings we know today.



The first directional road sign, at Hatfield, 1907

# Why don't drivers take heed?

Better forecasts

are in store,

says James

Luckhurst

Tinter always seems to take motorists by sur-prise. However the bad weather alerts, and however many warnings are issued by motoring organisations and local authorities, there are usually plenty of reports of mayhem. ailbacks and accidents.

Are the forecasters or the motorists to blame, and is there ever likely to be a change in the pattern? Next week assuming that road conditions allow them to make the journey — a group of experts will gather in London to address those questions.

One of them is Roland Chaplain, who established a network of weather watchers ten years ago to provide reports and predictions to help those responsible for keeping Scotland's roads safe.

"Information to motorists has hitherto been restricted to road condition reports that could be several hours old," he says. "We have to move towards a situation where we can find out the likely conditions in a few hours time. That's far more useful for motorists, as they can plan

their journeys accordingly."
The traditional public perception of weather information is that it should be free, and Chaplain's vision follows that idea, with organisations who might otherwise be in competition sharing information. "The present system is working against the public interest. Weather forecasts need to be involved not just in scientific interpretation but in providing accurate but easily digestible information that's in the best interests of the audiences who want it."

So will the time come when motoring organisations can go beyond frequent warnings to take care, allow extra time and



carry a shovel in the boot? Nick Simmons of AA Roadwatch is excited about the future, but with reservations about cost. "Any organisation that provides accurate, relevant information has to be concerned with profitability. We are looking into on-line services, the Internet and sophisticated in-car equipment to provide the sort of weather information drivers want, at an affordable price."

But there's a big danger in putting dynamic meteorological predictions into the hands of non-experts who do not appreciate when they are relevant and when they have

to BBC Radio 5 Live's weather expert. Philip Eden. "Motor-ists have been accused of ignoring warnings from motoring organisations, but this may well be because the warnings themselves carry little that's new or relevant." The truth is that much

better, more up-to-date authoritative information does exist, and organisations like the Met Office are now more to providing geared customised forecasts that best serve the interests of their commercial customers. "We have developed extremely accurate local forecasts that pay close attention to road surface

temperature over a period of

hours," says Met Office spokesman Andy Yearman. Roadside sensors positioned strategically at sites chosen by council officials allow us and them to monitor changes in surface temperature that may call for a gritting operation."

o grit, or not to grit, is a complicated question, and one that could prove very expensive if a council manager gets it wrong. A full grit of the roads in Kent, for example, costs between £45,000 and £55,000, takes just over two hours and includes more than 2,000 miles of road. So if the grit proves unnecessary then a

big chunk of the county's 13 million winter weather budget has disappeared. Conversely, the legal implications of fail-ing to grit when snow or ice does arrive are increasing. The gritting process has

improved dramatically over the past few years," says Dr John Thornes of Birmingham University, who is president of the Standing International Road Weather Commission. "It used to be the case that weather forecasters knew little about roads, and highway engineers knew little about weather, but greater co-operation, as well as training for the engineers, has done a lot to

This is just as well, as highway meteorology has a much higher profile these days, when a fatal accident can lead to legal claims worth millions, according to Chaplain. The way weather impacts on the road and transport is getting much more important, yet we are still waiting for a system where everyone can benefit."

John Thornes and Roland Chaplain will be speaking at a workshop on road weather conditions organised by the Meteorological Society, to be held on Wednesday January 15 at Imperial College, London

GENERAL

## WINTER BREAKDOWNS ARE "SNOW" FUN...BUT HERE'S HOW TO AVOID THEM!

Surely, it's the one thing all motorists dread. Picture this: After a week of cold, frosty nights you take your car on its first long journey of the winter. Your young tamily are with you. It's getting dark early and a snowstorm that left the roads white seriler in the day has restarted with a vengeance. Then you stall the car on an unfamiliar, lonely B road...and R won't restart! What do you do? There are no blankets of warm clothing in the car, thick snow outside, the car is well and truly stuck and you don't yet belong to an

emergency rescue organisation. These parties is partied to see that the winter months.

But none of this need ever happen if you take a few sensible sleps now and get your car ready to survive the winter months without ever having to Cer breakdown service Automational Rescue has sponsored this special keeture to help you and your car get through the colder months without ever having to Car breakdown service Automatical to worry about this nightmans accounts.

**SNOW PROBLEM** 

In deep snow, it you experience wheelspin trying to start on then don't carry on racing the engine. This will only dig the wheels in deeper. In usery states, a your car slightly backwards and torwards to get out of the rul, using the highest gest you can (first or second) for the conditions. RESIDENCE, my interving your car segminy packwards and toneards to get out of the rul, using the highest gest you can (first or second) for the conditions. Although you have to watch your speed on slippery roads, any loss of momentum going uphill on snow won't get you very far. But trying to regain lost speed may result in so much wheelspin that you lose control. may result in so much wheelers are you see that you can avoid a queue or hold up if he or she gets completely Again, use a high gear uphill and leave a good gap behind the vehicle in front of you so that you can avoid a queue or hold up if he or she gets completely

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Choose the best geer for the whole climb and get there in that gear. Changing geer on the way up in snow is never easy, even for the best drivers, to avoid

Generally:

Mhen bed weather sets in, only make journeys if they are absolutely necessary, especially at night.

Make sure you have your car serviced at regular intervals, whatever the vehicle's age, so that it is less likely to cause you problems when you least need.

Make sure you have your car serviced at regular intervals, whatever the vehicle's age, so that it is less likely to cause you problems when you least need. them.

● Join a breakdown organisation - it will other you peace of mind and prove invaluable in the event of a breakdown. And always carry your breakdown service

That's the useful, general advice. But there are several checks you can make before setting off on a winter

VINEUR UNIC:
You should check that all your lights are working, from headlamps to indicators, tog lights to hazard warning. Also, check your interior lights - you don't warn to get stuck in the dark if you can avoid it!

Check your washer bottle figuids and the wipers themselve CHECK TWO:

CHECK PUBL:
Sony to be so basic, but do you have enough petrol for your journey? Especially if you get stuck in traffic. This is a major cause of breakdo

with you and some food.

**ESSENTIAL WINTER WARMERS** 

Why not carry these items in your car through the winter:

Two blankets Extra warm clothing A snow or ordinary shovel Hazard warning triangle Spare light bulbs First Aid Kit

And this is what you should do.....

And carry a mobile priorie if you raine (or carr and or so, carry that you can get the best out of your ventilating and heating system when your windows Another piece of sound advice is to study your car's handbook, so that you can get the best out of your ventilating and heating system when your windows Anti Skid Matsjor a piece or old carpea.

And carry a mobile phone if you have (or can afford) one. But make sure it's always fully charged.

mist or trost up.

Whatever you do, don't drive unless you can see properly all around you and treat other cars you see which are trosted or misted up as special hazards. Whatever you do, don't drive unless you can see properly se around you also dead outer cers you see which are trosted or misted up as special hazards.

The biggest single danger for any driver is not being able to see properly, so carry some demister/de-licer for the windscreen and other windows.

But perhaps the most important rule of all in bed weather conditions is to keep your speed well down. The worse the road conditions, the slower your speed.

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# Schumacher's toy story winner

Same name, same sport, but miniaturised.

It's a small

world, says

## Simon Hacker

uccess is a funny thing. While some young hopefuls called Schumacher spend their lives tearing after it. others with the same surname have it thrust upon them.

So runs the story of Northampton businessman Cecil Schumacher. If you'd asked him 20 years ago what he'd be doing by the age of 60, he might have predicted a happy retirement from his career as a design engineer in the motor industry. In a key post with Borg-Warner by 42, his boffinish head had already been hunted and bagged by Cosworth. But fate decided that this Schumacher was destined for smaller things.

"It all started at home. I was working on a race transmission system for Cosworth and my son Robin kept nagging me for a model car, i didn't want to get involved because I was so busy, so I bought him a low-tech one-eighth scale battery model."

However, because Robin's new racer had no front differential, the front tyres kept wearing out: "When he kept coming back for more money for tyres, I had a look at the car and decided to design and fit a diff myself.™

But the solution proved too popular — Cecil found that Robin's friends all wanted one for their models. Cecil was unable to secure a patent for the subsequent "Schumacher diff", a simple but innovative ball-bearing mechanism driv-en by friction, but he decided to test the market all the same. Soon, a thriving kitchen-table industry began.

Investment in a plasticinjection-moulding machine quickly followed and Cecil began a partnership with his wife Brenda, with son Robin and his two sisters chipping in for pocket money. Before long.



Cecil Schumacher with examples of his radio-controlled cars. One record-breaking model has exceeded 70mph. Not bad for a venture that started on the kitchen table as a favour for his son's friends

production demands for an emerging range of tiny accessories necessitated relocation to the garage; weeks later the mini assembly line for complete small-scale racing machines spilled over into the garden shed.

The first full Schumacher model was the highly successful C Car, a one-twelfth scale buggy which sped off to win the model racing world's European Championships in

Mindful of the risks though,

Cecil kept his day job, viewing the sprouting of Schumacher Racing Products as little more than an amusing sideline. But all that changed when Brenda took him aside one evening to look at the accounts: "She showed me that the weekend

work was bringing in more than my time at Cosworth we knew that it was time to go

Today, Cecil's company has an annual turnover that tops £2 million, providing work for team of 32 in purpose-built facilities. Each year, Schumacher components, kits and assembled cars are exported all over the world, costing between £70 and £300 for basic models without radio controls. Power comes from either methanol-fuelled combustion engines or electric battery-driven motors.

In a recent test around Silverstone's main circuit, a Schumacher test model set speed records for its class by averaging 50.5mph and exceeded 70mph on the straights. Schumacher pilot Tim Walden used a Caterham as a pace car. A tankful of fuel for the model cost 20p.

The company's current equivalent to the Ford Escort in volume terms is the one-tenth scale Competition All Terrain 2000 European Champion, or CAT. The first CAT, Cecil explains, pioneered new ideas and was "driven" by Masami Hirosaka to win the 1987 fourwheel drive World Championship - the first of many world titles. At competition races, offroaders can average around 25mph over tough terrain, although they can nudge 60mph on manicured lawn. If you suspected that racing

radio-controlled cars was just kids' stuff, the Schumacher workshop and design room is a revelation. Cecil's world is one of shrink-wrapped Formu-la One: all the talk is of carbon-fibre chassis (the mate rial is bought from a US aircraft builder), anodised aluminium shock absorbers and titanium "speed seeker components. Adults and teenage model racers spend as

sion, programming gearing and calibrating shock absorbers as might motorsport's top. "The races are fleroely com-petitive," says Cecil, "if you

much time tweaking suspen-

close your eyes and listen to

tings, you could be at any motorsport event." Team Racing sponsors young get to race the latest kit and

for the big events.

The rules that govern radio racing ensure a degree of skill which goes beyond thrashing around a circuit - we and our drivers have to know how to optimise a car's performance

over many parameters. If you choose the wrong ratio, for instance, you might chase the talk of spring ratings, tyre away from the start ordy to

gone in the final circuit. You have to judge when to put special fluid on your tyres for entra grip — and how that might affect performance."

choice and suspension set. find the batteries or fuel have

Much of the growth of sured Schumacher's succes as modelmaker seems to have come from a kickback from interest in computer games: Parents now realise that these models are an antidote to screen watching. They get you out into God's fresh air and the kids learn all about engineering and the basics of motorsport."

But although model racing is essentially a nuts-and-bolts, hands-on sport, Schumacher's latest product, the SST 2000, can be bought as an off-thepeg one-tenth scale saloon touring car, aimed at the emerging ready-to-race mar-ket: We traditionally occupy the more serious end of the market - racing for guys who race to win. They want highintegrity products and though they want to beat the competition, they don't necessarily like to spend their time building

But at the chequered hand-kerchief, surely a fair chunk of Cecil's success has come down to his name? He laughs, but doesn't agree. The name thing has certainly been a lot of fun — I get a lot of leg pulling and it's hardly harmful if people believe that there is a connection between the two of us. But our company stood on its own two feet before Michael came along -



The company's turnover now tops £2 million, providing employment for a team of 32 in purpose-built facilities

## So how can we play?

My son is a bit of a tearaway. He's always fancied himself as a racing driver, but he's hardly going to hit the track in his old Mini. Do you think model racing might be a good outlet for his aggr... er enthusiasm?

Well with all the current fears A about road rage, anything which gives young drivers a chance to work off a bit of energy sounds worth a try. But model racing is a bit more than a miniature burn-up. Top drivers take it seriously and the technology that goes into the cars resembles the real thing.

You mean like every other hobby the boy has tried up till now, it's going to cost me an arm and a leg?

When it comes to the question of A cost, we doctors like to refer you to a specialist: Chris Deakin, editor of Radio Race Car International magazine, says the rules ensure that the pace of technology doesn't make the sport unaffordable. "You can get into racing for as little as £200, but many of the latest electronic onboard aids could rule starters out -- that's why traction control had to be banned."

## DR DASHBOARD

Traction control? Whatever next Who formulates the rules for these model racers!

The British Radio Car Association (BRCA) oversees scaled-down events in the UK. As many as 12,000 racers attend its meetings each year. For a free information pack, write to the BRCA at PO Box 122. Bolton, BL7 9WW.

I hope the roles aren't too complicated — my boy is not known for the length of his attention span. How strict are the regulations?

For each race, the type of engine is A specified and scrutineers check that each unit is sealed before and after battle. In championship races, the engine is usually taken apart to ensure it has not been souped up, while at battery-powered events, the cars are allowed one charge only per race.

This is beginning to sound like This is beginning to south really serious stuff. How fast will these miniaturised machines go?

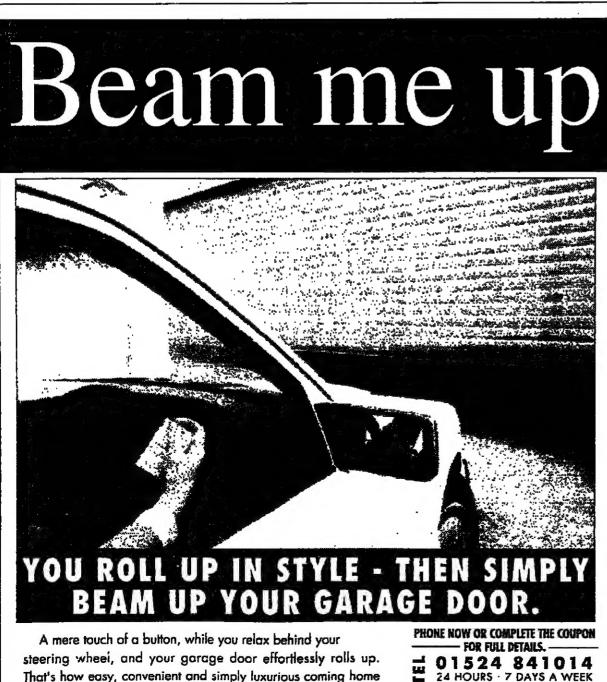
The most advanced technology has already made speeds of up to 60mph possible on grass. But the BRCA is very anxious that beginners should not be priced out of contention. There are similar strict rules to limit the strength of Nicad batteries, some of which now have huge capacity.

So would the doctor recommend this as an instructional pastime for my occasionally wayward son?

Again a specialist opinion is best. Chris Deakin says: A lot of the participants begin as frustrated Damon Hills, but they soon learn that this is no easy option. It's not for kids who want to play with toys."

So where can I take the boy to see what this radio-controlled motor racing stuff is like?

Contact the BRCA for details of local meetings. He could go a long way if he gets the bug. Last year the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu played host to the world championship for methanol-powered off-roaders. There's also a European championship.

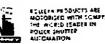


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